





THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. I.]

OCTOBER, 1913.

[No. 8

## Editorial Notes

At the General Committee Meeting of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy on the 12th September, it was resolved that the "*Planting Gazette*" shall be registered as a newspaper. To this step we can see no objection and no dissentient voice was raised at the Meeting. In future the words "for private circulation only" will not appear upon our cover, and copies of the paper will be available for all who wish to purchase them.

\* \* \* \* \*

In another column details of the prizes offered by the International Rubber and Allied Trades Exhibition, London, and the International Rubber Congress and Exhibition, Batavia, are given; at least, of those prizes which are likely to attract competitors from among our readers. Not only are they worth trying for on account of their intrinsic value and for the prestige which will attach to their possession, but the general cause of Plantation Rubber vs. Brazil Rubber, which we all have at heart, will be furthered by the entry of a large number of well prepared exhibits. In addition to those enumerated so far, a prize, £50 in value, is to be offered by the Planters' Association of Ceylon at the International Rubber Exhibition in London in 1914, on terms which will shortly be settled and published. The Committee of the Exhibition to be held in Java in 1914 is anxious to attract Ceylon Planters, and we are assured by their able representative, Mr. A. Van Laer, that a hearty welcome and true Dutch hospitality will be extended to all who can find time to visit Batavia in September-October, 1914.

\* \* \* \* \*

Before the issue of our next number, Sir Robert Chalmers, our Governor-elect, will have arrived in Ceylon and will have been presented with an address of welcome by the Planters' Association of Ceylon. In our last issue printed an article by one of the most statesmanlike planters who ever served the Planters' Association giving his opinion of our new Governor in terms which it was encouraging to read. It is generally known that Sir Robert Chalmers is a distinguished Oriental Scholar, the translator of a volume of the Jataka stories from Pali into English. Pali is a dead language, the sacred tongue of the southern branch (Hiniyana) of the Buddhist religion; and the Jataka stories, as well as the doctrines of Buddha, and the Mahawansa, Ceylon's remarkable historical work, were written in that tongue. Comparatively few European Scholars have ever mastered Pali literature, and save for the possession of a few chants and texts, by far the greater majority of the Sinhalese priests are innocent of its knowledge, while to the Buddhist layman it is almost entirely unknown. The Jataka stories are delightful fables, some of them highly moral and altruistic in tone, others almost Rabelaisian in flavour. They describe the 550 incarnations of the Bodhisatta before he attained to complete wisdom and became the *Light of Asia* under the title of Buddha, "the Wise one." Glancing through the titles and short descriptions given by Sir Robert Chalmers in his table of contents we are arrested by the maxim enjoined in number 109, Bahiya-Jataka, to wit "Occasional decency (is) a passport to greatness." This seems advice not hard to follow. Upon a later page, those of our readers who wish to learn what manner of literature a Jataka may be will find printed the *Udancani-Jataka*.

\* \* \* \* \*

The plan of a set of lines published in our last issue has been most unmercifully criticised, and we have been at some pains to explain that these were not

designed in our office. With this issue we publish another plan, of a less palatial design, provided, as was the last, by the courtesy of the acting P. C. M. O. All criticism, especially of an constructive kind is cordially invited. A correspondent writes regarding the plan published in our last issue "The Line plan is absolutely palatial and extravagant. It would cost fully Rs. 200 per room, I fancy, and is quite unnecessarily costly. If, as I do here, a 2 ft. deep drain is sunk round the outside slope of earth, so that the floor of the room would be probably 3 feet above water-level, there is no earthly necessity for the building to be raised 7 feet above the ground, as in the plan. The concrete steps are then also unnecessary, and the plank flooring is a source of danger from fire. I am told that in my kaddies fires are lighted on the planking, by interposing earth and *tagrams*, but it is not desirable. I am inclined to think that the lordly designer of the lines forgot the item of cooking-fires. I see the design provides for a plank ceiling under the roofing. This also seems to be unnecessary, though iron roofs are undoubtedly hot. Still coolies seem to live in them without complaint. Windows to the rooms are also unnecessary and unpopular with coolies."

The C. P. R. C. & C. M. R. returns were omitted from our last issue by mistake, they were sent in as usual by Capt Stevenson.

It may be that the wives and sisters of planters sometimes read this paper, and for their information we print the appeal for funds to build an Art Gallery for Ceylon. When one stops for a moment to consider how the indigenous arts of this country have been discouraged by the influx of cheap machine-made articles from Europe, it is apparent how necessary is some assistance to those who wish to revive the love of beauty among the Ceylonese.

The interesting letter appearing elsewhere from Mr. J. Loudon Shand gives information which perhaps is not generally known.

In exchange for £100 subscribed by the Planters, Association of Ceylon annually to the London Association, members of the former become members of the London Association when at home, Mr. Shand's letter points out conveniences which can be derived from this arrangement.

With regard to the first paragraph of his letter, on looking up the year-book for 1877 we find the following:—

"Proposed by J. L. Shand, Esq.,  
Seconded by Geo. Wall, Esq.,

"That in place of the return of artisans' wages, members of Committee be requested to furnish quarterly District Reports which shall be published by the Association at a cost which will defray expenditure."

"That the Members of the Committee resident in Kandy be appointed a Committee to carry out this scheme, and that they invite discussion on agricultural subjects from members of the Association."

Had Mr. Shand's suggestions been adopted and had this been the 36th year of this publication instead of its first year, what a mine of interesting and valuable reading would be available at the present day.

The address of the London Association Rooms is, 61-62, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C., and for the convenience of members of the Planters' Association homeward bound, we shall be glad to forward addresses for registration.

\* \* \* \* \*

Quite suddenly the question of the coolie's food seems to have come into the foreground of discussion. In a certain newspaper, not read by planters, it has been most inaccurately—perhaps maliciously—suggested that the coolie is to be fed upon a cheaper, less nutrient, and more indigestible grain than rice, so that proprietors may save their present loss on rice.

This needs no refuting. The problem is too intricate and too important for time to be wasted in controversy. The position is broadly this. A sum reaching very likely to some hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling is being lost annually on the issue of rice to estate coolies. A speaker at the last General Committee Meeting placed the loss at over three Rupees an acre: a correspondent informed us that his loss was 60 cents a bushel: in conversation with a planter we were told that his Company's loss for 1912 amounted to £6,000: and other equally startling figures are easily obtainable. The Planters' Association has appointed a sub-Committee to confer with members of the Chamber of Commerce and to go thoroughly into the whole question of the food supply (*vide* the Minutes). In our opinion this sub-Committee will have a most onerous task, but at the same time an exceedingly interesting task. The coolie cannot afford to buy rice at its market price and therefore proprietors have bought it for him and issued it to him at a loss. To save this we must either get rice cheaper or issue some other grain to the coolie. To take the latter contingency first: it is obvious that any grain substituted must be of equal food-value and lower in price. It must cost less and yet keep the coolie in good health, moreover it must suit his palate. We take it that the determination of the food value of any grain is easy now-a-days, but the coolie takes very little count of proteids, albumenoids and nitrogens, and does care a great deal about his own impression as to the requisite "strength" in his stomach. Kurakkan or Ragi (Tamil கௌக) is said by some to meet the requirements. It is eaten freely, when obtainable, in Ceylon, and in many parts of India it forms the staple diet of the agricultural labourers. Its advocates point out its cheapness, and claim that, if properly milled, its food value is the same as that of rice and that it is not more indigestible. Mr. Anson, who has contributed several interesting letters to the daily press finds his coolies thrive on Kurakkan and rice eaten alternately. One of the most robust labour forces we ever knew fed upon Kurakkan in preference to taking rice. But its opponents state that it is a grain in every way inferior to rice, more indigestible, less nourishing, even deleterious, and less palatable. Evidently there is room for a great deal of experiment and analysis before Kurakkan can be looked to as a definite substitute. And apart from its suitability there is the great question whether its supply would meet an enlarged demand without the price rising immediately. Probably the price would rise very quickly, if steps weren't taken to open up a large area of chena and waste land in the grain; but, if suitable, there is no doubt it can be grown cheaply enough. Returning to rice itself, the problem is

quite clear. We want to find out where rice is grown in the world, how much is grown, what it costs where it is grown, and what its freight to Ceylon would cost. And we must obtain samples from all likely producing areas to ascertain whether the rice of the right kind. We must also find out what land is available for growing more rice in Ceylon, what terms Government are prepared to sell or lease it on, and what labour would be required and available. From this brief summary it will be seen that membership of this sub-Committee will be no sinecure. We should like to see a conference between the Chamber of Commerce and the Planters' Association as represented by the sub-Committee, and Government was represented by the Director of Agriculture, the Director of Irrigation and the Land Settlement Officer. The interests are so large that no time trouble or expense should be spared in investigation. Finally it must be remembered that to cheapen the grain supply of the labour force without giving a less valuable food would not only benefit proprietors enormously, but would make the cooly richer and more contented. A planter who has experimented in Kurakkan wrote that on every bushel of food-grain now supplied, as compared with the bushel as supplied by him a few months ago, his coolies gain Rs. 1.15 and his own loss is reduced from 60 cents to 21 cents. On these figures the advantage to the coolies is three times as great as the advantage to their employers.

#### UDANCANI-JATAKA.

"A HAPPY LIFE WAS MINE."—This story was told by the Master while at Jetavana, about a temptation by a fat girl. The incident will be related in the Culla-Narada-Kassapa Jataka in the Thirteenth Book.

On asking the Brother, the Master was told that it was true he was in love and in love with the fat girl. "Brother," said the Master, "she is leading you astray. So too, in times gone by, she led you into evil, and you were only restored to happiness by the wise and good of those days." So saying, he told this story of the past.

Once on a time when Brahmadata was reigning in Benares, those things came to pass which will be told in Culla-Narada-Kassapa Jataka. But on this occasion the Bodhisatta at evening came with fruits to the hermitage, and, opening the door, said to his son, "Every other day you brought wood and victuals, and lit a fire. Why have you not done any of these things to-day, but sit sadly here pining away?"

"Father," said the young man, "while you were away gathering fruits, there came a woman who tried to lure me away with blandishments. But I would not go with her till I had your leave, and so left her sitting waiting for me. And now my wish is to depart."

Finding that the young man was too much in love to be able to give her up, the Bodhisatta bade him go, saying "but when she wants meat or fish or ghee or salt or rice or any such thing to eat, and send you hurrying to and fro on her errands, then remember this hermitage and flee away back to me."

So the other went off with the woman to the haunts of men, and when he was come to her house, she made him run about to fetch every single thing she wanted.

"I might as well be her slave as this," thought he and promptly ran away back to his father, and saluting him, stood and repeated this stanza:—

A happy life was mine till that fell she,  
—That worrying, tiresome pitcher styled my wife—  
Set me to run the errands of her whims.

And the Bodhisatta commended the young man, and exhorted him to kindness and mercy, setting forth the four forms of right feeling towards men and the modes of ensuring Insight. Nor was it long before the young man won the Knowledge and Attainments, and attained to right feeling towards his fellow-creatures, and with his father was re-born into the Brahma Realm.

His lesson ended, and the Four Truths preached (at the close whereof that Brother entered the First Path) the Master identified the Birth by saying, "The fat girl of to-day was also the fat girl of those days, this young Brother was the son, and I the father of those days."

[Selected from H. E. Sir Robert Chalmer's Book. — Ed.]

#### MALAYALI LABOUR.

It was in March, 1911, that I first, at the suggestion of my conductor, started the recruiting of Malayali coolies. He himself comes from Quilon and it is from there, or that neighbourhood, that I have got my coolies. (Quilon is, by the way, only 24 hours' journey from Colombo.) At first four men arrived to spy out the land, and, having worked a month or two, one of them went back to the Coast to bring over more. He returned in June with 23 coolies, and 19 more came in August. Since then I have only to say how many I want and in a month or two that number—or perhaps a few more—arrive, and every now and again a few turn up on their own. From this it would appear at first sight as if I had no labour worries, but there are certain disadvantages in the employment of this labour—"which I will now proceed to relate."

All the coolies that have come so far are men, from about 17 to 40 years of age. There has been talk at times some women coming over, but, as yet, none have arrived. I still have hopes, however, and there is a man now at the Coast with an A. Form "for ladies only," and a promise of free passages, and he is said to be going to bring over the female relatives of some of the coolies who have been longest on the estate. On a mixed Tea and Rubber estate it is certainly a very great drawback, that in 2½ years I have not been able to recruit one solitary plucker from this source.

It is possible, even probable, that this lack of female society accounts to a large extent for their bolting propensities. Having very few goods and chattels, no old women, small children, or other dependents, it is very easy for them to move off in the night and get to Colombo, where they can at once find work and where it is almost impossible to catch them. Colombo is full of Malayalis. All the mills, engineering works, and builders seem to employ this labour, and a large number of the better class ones get work as house and shop coolies.

If anyone does not know a Malayali by sight, the next time he is in Colombo he will, if he looks, see any number of men in some ways much like Tamils but of a much more cheerful disposition, and instead of having their hair tied in a knot behind the knot is cocked jauntily on one side in front. These are Malayalis. A few of my bolters, after spending a month or two in Colombo, have turned up again at the estate of their own accord, but I have never been able to find out from them the why and wherefore of their absconding, and I really believe in many cases they themselves don't know why they did so.

So far as their work goes they are, like any other gang of coolies, both good and bad. As tappers—and tapping is a work they seem to like—some are excellent, and moreover, unless ill, work with unfailing regularity: being fairly intelligent they learn what is required pretty quickly. Another work that suits them and which they actually appear to enjoy, is anything in the way of earth cutting, where they can work close together in a fairly big gang and sing and be joyful, and there always appears to be at least one "Merrie Andrew" who will keep things going the whole day.

Most of them can talk and understand a little Tamil. Those who can't, when spoken to, appear to think they are being told a funny story and show a considerable amount of appreciation.

I have had practically no trouble between them and the Tamils on the estate, even though, in some cases, they have been living in the same set of lines. What small rows there have been, have been due to drink after pay, and the drunkenness has by no means been confined to the Malayalis. A large amount of their pay—about half I am told—is collected every month and sent over to the Coast to their relations.

One superlative virtue they possess: they never ask for money. Never has a single one of them joined that exasperating "Rs. 100 or my tundu" brigade that waits outside the office on Monday mornings. When they go they go without any formality whatever. Annoying certainly at the moment, but a painful, though not very expensive, operation that is swiftly over is surely no worse than an evidently incurable canker perpetually gnawing at the vitals.

I am aware that I have indulged mostly in generalities and that details and figures are conspicuous by their absence, but to give these would have taken up much space, and moreover would not have been of very great interest in these days when so many think that the only way to improve our labour force and to make Ceylon a Paradise on Earth for both the Superintendent and the cooly, is by means of the Law, the Police Court, and the Gaol—from which Heaven save us all!

A. M. CARMICHAEL.

## CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION NOTES.

### MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS.

**RECRUITING FIGURES.**—The total number of coolies that were registered at the Agencies of this Commission during August amounted to 9,561, as against 9,954 during the same month last year. The total number of coolies recruited

for the year is 72,683, as against 63,531 for the eight months of 1912. It is difficult to account for the slight falling off during August, but rain has been fairly well distributed and coolies are therefore engaged in cultivation.

**HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE.**—TRICHINOPOLY holds its own and shews a slight increase.

**CHITTOOR CIRCLE** drops behind owing to apathy with regard to recruiting in the Telugu Districts.

**CHINGLEPUT, ARKONAM, VILLUPURAM AND KATPADI** are none of them so good as last year for the same month. The climatic conditions may account for this in some measure.

**MADURA CIRCLE** continues to improve in spite of a falling off at the Coastal Agencies. An outbreak of cholera at Tondi is checking emigration from that port.

**SALEM CIRCLE** shews a small decrease. In the **PALGHAT CIRCLE** results are very disappointing. Very little recruiting is being done in Malabar and Dindigul which is in the North Madura District shews a falling off of nearly 100 coolies.

I attach the usual Comparative Statement.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.  
9th September, 1913.

### COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.

I left Trichinopoly on the 20th August by Motor Car en route to Bangalore to attend, by invitation of the Chairman, the Annual Meeting of the United Planters Association of Southern India.

I visited and inspected the Musiri Agency which is 25 miles from Trichinopoly. The Agent, who is the local Village Munsiff, informed me that village debts are high in that Taluk owing to increased prosperity which indicates that the cooly requires a higher advance to induce him to leave and emigrate to Ceylon. These so-called village debts are apparently premiums only, and run from Rs. 50 up to Rs. 100 per head, of which sum no doubt the kangany who recruits annexes a very substantial portion. Where debts actually did exist this is because crops are poor owing to want of rain, which is the case in the less prosperous parts of this Taluk. 60 coolies have already been sent this year during August against a total for last year of 44.

From Musiri I proceeded to Srinivasanallur, which has a population of about 200. I distributed notices and talked to some of the villagers who informed me that some of their people had gone to Ceylon and some to Penang.

I then passed through Thottiyiam where notices were distributed and the advantages of Ceylon emigration explained to the villagers.

I again stopped at Yalurpatti which had a population of about 1,000 and distributed notices. Some coolies have been sent to Ceylon. In this place the cultivation is dry and the country looked poor.

I arrived at Namakal, 53 miles from Trichinopoly. This place takes its name from the Goddess Namariammal, and there is a Temple on the rock dedicated to the Deity. The opening of this Agency has been justified by results, and if the feeling of preference to emigration to Penang could be overcome there should be a good field for recruiting in this Taluk.

In the afternoon I motored out from Namakal to Pallavolaiyam and Kandapalaiyam distributing notices. The wages in this place are about four annas per man and two annas per woman. I think that this would be a good place for Superintendents to visit.

I then went to Paramatte which has a population of about 2,000, amongst whom are a large number of Brahmins. Similar wages appear to rule in this place. Penang and Singapore are freely spoken of. The distance from Namakal to this place is about 11 miles and coolies should be available.

I left the following morning for Salem, stopping at Nallipalaiyam, one mile from Namakal. Here the people spoke of Penang and seemed to know very little about Ceylon. I distributed notices. Similarly at Muthulapatti which struck me would be a good place for Superintendents to recruit.

I then went on to Sellampatti from where I was told about 50 coolies had gone to Ceylon.

I stopped at Puduchattram, distributed notices and arrived at Salem about midday. Here the Agency was thoroughly inspected and a number of kanganyes who were waiting at the Agency were interviewed and reports have been furnished to the Superintendents concerned.

I proceeded from Salem to Dharmapuri and inspected the Agency there. I was informed by the Agent that there is a good quantity of Pariah Labour available at Pannagram, from which place about 200 coolies have gone to Ceylon estates. The general complaint from people of Pannagram and elsewhere is that they do not hear from their relatives in Ceylon and, I think, if Superintendents would encourage correspondence and give facilities for conveying information to the Coast it would help to make Ceylon conditions more popular and better known. The rate of pay round about Dharmapuri is said to be six annas for men and three annas for women. Rice is dear and ragi is the chief diet. Rain is short.

I proceeded from Dharmapuri to Hosur, a distance of about 98 miles and 30 miles from Bangalore. I do not think Hosur would be a good recruiting centre, as the large Remount Depot at Matigiri where I stayed absorbs a good deal of the labour available.

During my stay at Bangalore I was made very welcome by the Chairman, Secretary, and Delegates to the United Planters' Association of Southern India, who showed me the greatest hospitality. As far as relations between the United Planters' Association of Southern India and the Ceylon Planters' Association are concerned I think that a foundation has been laid for complete understanding. The existence of a Labour Commission for the U.P.A.S.I. will, I think, tend to improve organisation as regards recruiting and assist to oust the professional who is doing so much to the detriment of both interests.

Whilst at Bangalore I inspected the Agency and have come to the conclusion that the question of closing this branch of the Commission should be considered. Recruiting figures shew a decrease monthly, and there is not the slightest doubt that every obstacle is placed in the way of emigration from the Mysore State and Bangalore, being the Headquarters of the Government this opposition is probably more effective than it would be elsewhere. I had an interview with the Diwan of Mysore State whilst in Bangalore and he assured me that no actual restrictions were being placed upon emigration yet, his Government

were not in sympathy with the movement as they themselves were extremely short of labour and that they would discourage their subjects from moving out of the State as far as they possibly could.

I am making enquiries with regard to a place called Kuppam which is close to the borders of Mysore within the boundaries of the North Arcot district. I understand that labour is available in and around Kuppam and emigrants from Mysore would not be liable to interference. This Agency, together with Nanjangud which is so far doing fairly well for a beginning, would be sufficient for our purpose, and I would advocate the closing of the Bangalore Agency which is not justifying its existence.\*

MANAPARAI.—The existence of this Agency has given considerable trouble during last year. Complaints with regard to extortion are continual, and although in a number of cases the complaints have been traced to professional recruiters and dismissed employees, I have come to the conclusion that an Agency on the Railway within twenty miles of Trichinopoly is not a necessity, and that the greater the number of coolies that are passed through the Trichinopoly Depot the better for estates concerned. I have passed an order that in future all holders of A. Forms on Manaparai Agency either for preadvance or rate per head should be directed with their coolies to Trichinopoly Depot, and that the Agent at Manaparai should pay their fares which amounts to four annas six pies to Trichinopoly where they would be met at the Station and taken to the Depot. The only coolies in future that will be sent direct from Manaparai are those holding tin tickets only. By this means Superintendents whose kanganyes have connections in and around Manaparai can be assured that the money that they wish their kanganyes to receive will actually reach their hands without deduction.

A FORMS.—While a large majority of these forms are being correctly filled in, an appreciable percentage of them are not. Some forms arrive unsigned, others with rubber stamp signatures, and a number with the amounts not filled in or corrections initialled. Very often the triplicate is sent to this office and the duplicate given to the kangany bearing different words and figures. It should be recognised that these A. Forms are equivalent to cheques and those that are drawn up irregularly cannot be honoured. In the same way if advantage is taken by dishonest people to alter forms that are carelessly filled up this office cannot be held responsible.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

\* See notice on page 23.—ED.

Extract from the Inspection Report on Musiri, Ammapatnam, Turaiyur, Tondi and Pamban Agencies by the Assistant Commissioner, Headquarter Circle.  
Mr. E. V. B. Levinge.

MUSIRI.—The Agency figures show a good increase for the first half-year, and the agent says he has every hope of getting more coolies later on, so recruiting looks promising. Most of the coolies that pass through this Agency come from Musiri Taluk itself, I understand. I distributed a lot of notices on my way to Turaiyur at

Valavandy, Kannanore and Turaiyur itself, also at Kulitalai and several villages on my way back from Musiri, and at all the villages the inhabitants seemed very keen to obtain and read the notices and several bazaar men promised to hang them in their shops.

AMMAPATNAM.—Cholera in April and May caused a great scare here, so the figures show a decrease this year in consequence. Big preadvances seem to be frequently paid, judging by the A. Form Register.

TURAIYUR.—The increase does not appear to be very astounding, and the Agent thinks there will be a further slack now as the cholera harvest starts at the end of this month and the crops promise to be fairly good. Most of the coolies passing through this Agency come from about 14 miles round.

TONDI.—Cholera has been raging here for the last 15 days with about 40 deaths and 150 attacks, and there are about 6 or 7 attacks a day and 2 or 3 deaths. The result is that coolies are afraid to come near the place at present, and even kanganyes obliged to come with A. Forms for preadvances won't stay the night in the place. The Agent says they fear an epidemic, especially as there was a little rain while I was there. There have been no despatches since the 21st instant.

PAMBAN.—There seems to be some delay in despatching here, as there is only a steamer to Colombo three times a month and consequently coolies have to be kept in the Emigration Depôt till its arrival. Very few coolies go through here in a month, the average being about 70. I visited the temporary cooly camp that is being built at Thornithurru, the Mandapam end of the new railway bridge, to report on the progress. So far there are only two sheds erected, each partitioned off with tatties into six quarters with three rooms in each quarter for the clerical staff. No office or camp is yet started, and as the contractor was not there, I could not get any further information about it.

**Extract from the Inspection Reports on Tirupattur, Bangalore, Dharmapuri, Chingleput and Guntur Agencies by the Assistant Commissioner of Chittoor and Salem Circles.**

TIRUPATTUR.—The increase here is not so large as I expected, but the Agency ought to do well both in the west of North Arcot and in Krishnagiri Taluk.

BANGALORE.—The recruiting figures for this Agency show a serious falling off as compared with previous years:—

1909	...	...	737
1910	...	...	4,126
1911	...	...	1,073
1912	...	...	348
to date for 1913	...	...	130

which shows a further falling off as compared with 1912.

DHARMAPURI.—This Agency is doing well but not so well as it ought. There ought to be a substantial increase in next year's figures if the Agency is supported. I believe there is a good recruiting ground here.

CHINGLEPUT.—This Agency continues to do very well, and I note that most of the coolies come from Chingleput district itself. There always seems to be abundance of labour here, though the district is not a poor one.

GUNTUR.—This Agency has done nothing like so well this year, but I am still of the opinion that it could do very well indeed if support were given it by the estates.

**CAMPING REPORT, MALABAR DISTRICT.**

**From August 17th, 1913, to September 2nd, 1913.**

From an advertising point of view I consider the camp I have just finished a very good one, I went to several places where a motor had never been seen and apparently a kangany was unknown. Though a great many of the people were Moplahs there were many other castes only wishful to know more about Ceylon to be persuaded to go.

Besides giving notices in all the villages and handing them to people from the motor cycle as I passed them, at nearly all the places at which I stopped people came to the bungalows to ask for notices, one man said he had walked three miles to get one. I left Palghat at 2-52 p.m. by motor cycle, arriving at Mankara at 4-39 p.m., on the way I gave notices to every likely person and stopped at a village called Parli, where I talked to the people who were very interested, I was informed that four or five people had gone to Ceylon from the village and had sent money to their relations. There was a great demand for notices here. On the 18th I remained at Mankara, this is a quiet little place with a good many people, I had notices distributed and several were pasted on the houses, one being just below the letter box of the post office, anyone posting a letter must have read it. One of my reasons for going to this place was that through the Palghat Agency coolies have been going from this village, and I thought it would be a good thing to advertise a little more. On the 19th I left for Ottapalam, quite a crowd gathering to see the start, I stopped at Patripoliem distributing notices and making enquiries. I am convinced that if kanganyes went to the villages along this road they could get coolies, I was informed that about twenty coolies had lately gone to Ceylon from a near-by village, this I knew to be true as I remember seeing them at the Palghat Agency. I also met an old man who said that his son had gone to the Straits and had sent him Rs. 50. I stopped at a village called Lakkitti, finding the people anxious to know more about Ceylon.

On my arrival at Ottapalam I first went to the Police Station to make enquiries about a kangany who had been arrested for supposed kidnapping, I found he had been released. I sent my peon to the villages with notices.

On the next day I motored out to a place called Gonapara, stopped there for some little time distributing notices and talking to the people. I was told that a good many people had gone to Ceylon from Kavalapara a place close by, the people seemed very uneducated and poor. From here I went to a large village called Vaniamkolam, where a large crowd collected and there was quite a rush for notices, I gave all the information that I could and was told that several of the inhabitants had been to Ceylon and returned bringing money with them. On the way back to the Bungalow notices were given to passers-by.

On the 21st I left Ottapalam early in the morning to go to Cherpelcherri, a distance of eleven miles, there were no villages along this road but a very large scattered population, so I was kept busy giving notices all the way and stopped often to speak to people, some good advertising

being done. News of my coming had preceded me, and there was quite a crowd to see the motor take the very steep hill up to Cherpelcherri, I sent out notices that evening and had some pasted on the houses.

The following day I remained at Cherpelcherri and motored out to a village called Kalakod, this place is chiefly occupied by cloth weavers, they told me that no one had been to Ceylon, but some had gone to the Kolar Gold Mines, they were interested in the notices and wanted to know as much as they could about Ceylon. I had intended to go further but the road was impassable, being inches deep in mud, riding back to Cherpelcherri I found the village decorated with notices and my peon had also gone to a village two miles away with notices.

On the 23rd I went to Angadipuram, there were no villages to stop at on the way, but notices were left at the toll at the river crossing, and given to passers-by. Angadipuram is a big place, in which I did a good deal of advertising, from the bungalow verandah I could see a notice pasted on an empty house, most people passing stopped to read it. Several people came to see me, two men wishing to send coolies, I have their names. In the evening I motored out to Nartakal and back, 20 miles, doing good work.

The 24th was the weekly shandy day, it is one of the biggest shandies in the district, it was a good opportunity for distributing notices all over the district, I also had some pasted on the walls of the shandy sheds.\*

On the 25th I went to Malappuram leaving notices on the way. Malappuram is a semi-military station, the Collector was in Camp, so I was unable to see him, I had intended to call on him. I had some conversation with some of the chief inhabitants.

On the 26th I motored to Vylatore, the first part of the road being good, the latter part very bad, I had a great difficulty in places in fact without the N.S.U. two-speed gear, I should never have been able to undertake this camp during the rains. I should like to mention here what a great advantage I have derived by its addition to the Triumph. Notices were eagerly asked for all along this road. At Vylatore several people came to the bungalow for notices, one of them being a constable evidently desirous of sending coolies, my experience of the Indian constable is that he generally steals coolies. In the evening of the 27th I motored out to a place called Kalpakancherri, the road was in a terrible state, looking back I wonder how I got to the place, the machine at times had to be pulled over great boulders in the road, at others sinking in the mud, but by persevering I got there, there were a great many people about as it was the weekly shandy day, I distributed a large number of notices, and was followed for quite a mile by people asking for them. I stopped for some time here and spoke to the people.

I may mention here that the pictures have certainly proved a great attraction in Malabar, and were they would sometimes throw away the old notices without pictures that I had, the new ones are eagerly sought after and taken away to show to others. Leaving Vylatore I went to Tirur which is a fairly large town, I distributed many notices and had them pasted on the houses. I made a short stay here as there had recently been an agency here.

On the 29th I went to a place called Kuttipuram, 12 miles away for three miles the road was fair, the remaining

distance a sea of mud and potholes, it took me three hours to do the twelve miles, it also rained, notwithstanding the difficulties I distributed a lot of notices as I met a good many agricultural coolies. I stopped outside a large tile factory, but did not distribute notices as I did not think it would be fair to the employers. On this bad road, I lost a most important part of the two-speed gear but was luckily able to find it. I stopped for sometime at a village called Pudiangudi and talked to the people and gave them notices.

At Kuttipuram notices were distributed and pasted on the houses. On the 30th I went to Tirtala over quite a good road, though some difficulty was experienced in crossing the river as it was only half full of water. Whilst crossing on the platform on boats several people came with me including some intelligent coolies, to whom I gave notices which they read to each other whilst I was slowly crossing, I talked to them and left notices with the toll gate man.

In the afternoon I motored out along the Ponani road, stopped at villages and gave notices. I made a point of remaining at Tirtala on the next day, it being the weekly shandy day which is the best opportunity for circulating notices.

On the 31st I spent the morning putting on a fresh outer cover, the bad road having ruined one tyre and broken two spokes. In the afternoon I motored seventeen miles and went into a large village called Charlesseri, where there were crowds of people who were very interested in the Motor Cycle, I don't think they had ever seen one in the village before. I gave them notices and talked to them, one man with an extremely loud and clear voice read out a notice to the crowd from beginning to end, it was listened to with great attention. A good kangany should do well in this village, there was a Straits recruiter there who told me that he had sent more than forty coolies from the village. On the 1st September I went to Pattambi, left notices at the toll gate and to people I met. A man came to see me at Pattambi wanting to send coolies. Notices were distributed in the village. Here I regret to say my back tyre burst beyond repair, and so I was unable to motor to Palghat as I had intended to do, but out of the 35 miles to that place only 10 miles had been advertised. I took the train from Pattambi to Palghat, arriving at that place at 11-30 a.m.

Total distance run—by Motor Cycle 189 miles.

by Train 37 "

Had I been camping in a dry district I could have covered much more ground, Malabar roads are far from good at the best of times, but during the monsoon they are very bad. I cannot speak too highly of the behaviour of the Triumph Motor Cycle.

G. S. DUPEN,

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

7th September, 1913.

#### REMARKS ON MY CAMP.

It would be a good thing if kanganies could follow the ground that I have covered as soon as possible. There are the coolies, there are the notices in their hands. It only need a straightforward kangany to persuade many of them to take the journey. I am convinced that the increase of

\* Shandy = Market.



coolies going to Ceylon could be considerable if the Superintendents could send their kanganies to the villages that have been visited by ourselves.

Had I been actually recruiting myself I could have secured many coolies, but I think that too much time elapses after notices have been distributed before a kangany visits the place. Again and again I have been asked such question as "How do I go to Ceylon?" "Who will take me there, etc., etc."

I have not troubled to interview village Munsiffs as I know enough about Malabar to be independent of them.

The Paddy crop will be a good one this year, the wages average from As. 0-3-6 to As. 4 for men, As. 0-2-6 for women.

G. S. DUPEN,

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

7th September, 1913.

#### MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Trichinopoly Circle.</b>						
Musiri Agency ...	Musiri ... Kulitalai ...	Fair	4	2	Good	
Turaiyur Agency ...	Perambalore ...	Good	4 to 5	2 to 2½	Fair	
Namaparai Agency ...	Kulitalai ...	Fair	4	3	Good	
<b>Tanjore District.</b>						
Tanjore Agency ...	Arantangi ... Kumbakonam ... Mannargudi ... Nannilam ... Negapatam ... Papanasam ... Pattukottai ... Shiyali ... Tanjore ... Tiruthuraiipoondi ...	Fair	6	4	Not good	
Arumapatnam Agency ...	Arantangi ... Pattukottai ...	Poor for want of rain	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Fair	
Puducottah Agency ...	Kolatur ... Alangudi ... Tirumayam ...	Dry cultivation is going on do do	4½ do 5½	2½ do 3	Not good Good Not good	
<b>Ramnad District.</b>						
Tondi Agency ...	Tiruvadanie ... Tirupatur ... Sivaganga ... Paramakudi ...	Not good	4 to 6	3 to 4	There is a slackness in Emigration via Tondi Port owing to prevalence of Cholera, in Tondi.	
Pamban Agency ...	Paramakudi ... Tiruvadanalley ... Muthukolatur ... Abyram ...	Fair do Very fair Fair	6 5½ 5 6	3 2½ 3 4	Fair do do do	

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
1st September, 1913.



## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST, 1913.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men.	Women.			
			Annas.	Annas.			
<b>Tinnevally Agency.</b>							
Tinnevally Travancore	Ambasamudram	Good in Ambasamudram,					
	Tenkasi	... Tenkasi					
	Tinnevally	... Not good in Tiruchendoor					
	Nanguneri	... Nanguneri	4	2 to 0-2-6	Fair	A few Malayalams go from Travancore.	
	Tiruchendoor	... Srivaikuntam & Sankarankoil					
	Srivaikuntam	...					
Koilpatti and Sankarankoil	...						
<b>Tataparai Agency.</b>							
Tinnevally	Koilpatty Sankarankoil	Fair in the former Taluk, not very good in the latter.	4	2 to 0-2-6	Fair	There are a lot of festivals going on at present, consequently fewer coolies are going.	
<b>Trode Agency.</b>							
Coimbatore	Erode	...	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 0-2-6	Fair	
	Bhavani	...					
	Gobichettipoliem	...					
	Palladam	...					
	Peria Dhara-	...					
	puram	...					
	Satiyamangalam	...					
	Avanashi	...					
	Udamalpet	...					
Pollachi	...						
Kollegal	...						
<b>Palghat and Cannanore Agencies.</b>							
Malabar	Palghat	...	Good	4 to 5	2 to 0-2-6	Good	Plenty of coolies are available in Chirakal, Kottayam and Kurumbranad Taluks.
	Walawanad	...					
	Ponnani	...					
	Calicut	...					
	Chirakal	...					
	Kottayam	...					
	Kurumbranad	...					
	Ernad	...					
<b>Dindigul Agency.</b>							
Madura and Coimbatore	Dindigul Palani Dharapuram	Good	3 to 5	2 to 0-2-6	Good	The present month is a good one for recruiting, the figures being very good, a large number of coolies coming from the Palani and Dindigul Taluks.	

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
27th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
27th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th August, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th August, 1913.

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Karur Agency.</b>						
Trichinopoly & Coimbatore ...	{ Karur ... Dharapuram ... }	{ Crops are ... Good. }	4	0-2-6	Not Good	There is a good deal of work going on in the fields at present.

G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
4th September, 1913.

**Chittoor Circle.**

Chittoor ...	Chittoor ...	Paddy and Ragi poor	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	The prospects in Chittoor are still good, although there has been a little rain lately.
	Kalahastri ...	Paddy & Ragi growing poorly	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar ...	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Palmanair ...	do	do	do	do	
	Vayalpad ...	Young paddy indifferent.	do	do	Fair	
	Madanapally ...	do	do	do	Bad	
	Punganur ...	Young paddy and Ragi indifferent.	do	do	Indifferent	
	Chandragiri ...	do	do	do	do	

**TAMIL DISTRICTS.**

North Arcot...	Arcot ...	Paddy still young, good	4	2	Bad	
	Vellore ...	Ragi nearly ripe, good	do	do	Good	
	Gudiyatam ...	do	do	do	do	
	Walaja ...	Ragi nearly ripe, cumbu growing poorly	do	do	do	
	Polur ...	Ragi nearly ripe & some harvested	do	do	do	
	Arni ...	do	do	do	Poor	
	Wandiwash ...	Ragi nearly ripe, cholan & groundnut still young	do	do	Indifferent	
	Arkonam ...	Ragi good Cumbu fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	
	Cheyar ...	Paddy good Ragi fair	do	do	Fair	
	Tiruvanamalay...	Paddy good	do	do	do	
Chingleput ...	Chingleput ...	Young paddy good	5	3	Fair	
	Conjeeveram ...	Ragi sown Paddy sown	do	do	do	
	Madurantagam ...	do	do	do	do	
	Ponnery ...	Cumbu growing good paddy sown	do	2½	do	
	Saidapet ...	do	6	3½	do	
	Tiruvellur ...	Ragi, groundnuts are sown paddy sown	4	do	do	

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Tamil Districts.						
Villupuram ...	Villupuram ...	Cumbu and groundnut fair	5	3	Good	
	Tindivanam ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi ...	do	do	do	do	
	Tirukoilur ...	Cumbu fair				
		Ragi good, ploughing wet lands	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore ...	do	do	do	do	
	Viruthachalam...	Cholam, cumbu fair, Ragi good winter ground-nut sowing	do	do	do	
	Sidambaram ...	do	do	do	do	
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	No rain, no crops	4	2	Moderate	As long as the rain holds off here there is plenty of labour to be had, and the longer it holds off the better recruiting prospects—even after it does rain.
	Pulivendla ...	do	3	do	Good	
	Kanthalapuram ...	do	do	do	do	
	Roychoty ...	do	do	do		
	Rajampet ...	Cumbu growing under wells	4	do	do	
	Sidhout ...	No rain, no crops	3	do	Bad	
	Proddatur ...	do	8	3	do	
	Badvel ...	do	3	2	Good	
	Jammalmadugu ...	do	do	do	do	
Nellore ...	Nellore ...	Young paddy good	4 to 5	3	Bad	Prospects not at all good at present.
	Suloorpet ...	Tilling	3	1½	do	
	Vengatakiri ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kovoor ...	Young paddy growing poorly	do	2	do	
	Kavali ...	do	3½	2½	do	
	Atmakur ...	do	2½	2	do	
	Kandukur ...	Tilling	do	1	do	
	Udagiri ...	Young paddy and cholam growing poorly	3	2	do	
	Rapoor ...	Paddy and cholam growing poorly	2	1½	do	
	Kanigiri ...	Tilling	2½	do	do	
	Podili ...	do	do	do	do	
	Dharsi ...	do	do	do	do	
	Gudur ...	do	3	do	do	

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
Telugu Districts.			Annas.	Annas.		
Guntur	Guntur	Cumbu, cholam, chillies & tobacco are fertilize growth	4	3	Bad	
	Satnapalli	same as Guntur	do	do	do	
	Venukonda	Cumbu, cholam, cotton, red gram & ragi are in fertilize growth	do	do	do	
	Repalli	Paddy sown & replanted	do	do	do	
	Tenali	do	do	do	do	
	Bapatla	do	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	Young paddy & cholam good	3	1½	Moderate	I should say that the prospects at Guntakal Agency are still pretty fair.
	Dharmavaram	do	4	2	do	
	Uruvakonda	Young cholam moderate	3	do	do	
	Gooty	do	do	do	do	
	Kaliyandrug	do	do	1½	do	
Bellary	Bellary	do	4	2	do	
	Adoni	do	3	2	do	
	Hospet	do	2½	1½	do	
	Rayadury	do	4	2½	do	
	Aloor	do	2½	2	do	
Kurnool	Kurnool	Young cumbu growing well	3	do	do	
	Nandiyal	do	3½	do	do	
	Todopatry	do	4	do	do	
	Mottigodi	do	4	do	do	

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912 and 1913.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.
<b>Headquarter Circle.</b>																
Trichinopoly	1912	740	1,036	1,776	1,556	3,332	3,276	6,608	6,057	12,665	6,088	18,753	4,529	23,282	3,760	27,042
"	1913	994	1,201	2,195	1,453	3,648	4,081	7,729	7,639	15,368	7,193	22,561	4,723	27,284	3,772	31,056
Tanjore	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	323	1,202	259	1,461	175	1,636
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1,390	318	1,708	160	1,868
Turaiyur	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208	215	423	104	527	41	568
"	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552	139	691	83	774
Musiri	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	337	87	424	47	476
"	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366	206	572	177	749	122	871
Puducotah	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1,046	272	1,318	339	1,687
"	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1,205	277	1,482	247	1,729
Manapalai	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1,119	319	1,438	331	1,769
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1,269	446	1,715	438	2,153	368	2,521
Total...	1912	990	1,388	2,378	2,012	4,390	3,869	8,259	7,241	15,500	7,380	22,880	5,570	28,450	4,698	33,148
"	1913	1,408	1,630	3,038	1,895	4,933	5,020	9,953	9,080	19,033	8,962	27,995	6,072	34,067	4,752	38,819

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.
<b>Chittoor Circle.</b>																
Chingleput	1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1,515	505	2,020	437	2,457
"	1913	99	132	231	228	454	424	878	440	1,318	492	1,810	556	2,366	422	2,788
Arkonam	1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1,014	287	1,301	311	1,612
"	1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1,023	368	1,391	258	1,649
Villupuram	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1,277	501	1,778	618	2,396	629	3,025
"	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1,059	682	1,741	654	2,395	682	2,977	544	3,521
Katpady	1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1,082	415	1,497	577	2,074	499	2,573
"	1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1,263	342	1,605	320	1,925	387	2,312
Coconada	1912	...	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118	38	156	15	171
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58
Cuddapah	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	37	132	18	150
"	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	132	376	18	394
Nellore	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	9	67	...	67
"	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	13	139	2	141
Guntur	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	33	329	8	337
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138	3	141	14	155
Chittoor	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51	27	78	32	110
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	1912	757	702	1,459	669	2,128	1,149	3,277	1,351	4,628	1,869	6,497	2,104	8,601	1,917	10,518
"	1913	642	694	1,336	883	2,219	1,285	3,504	1,806	5,310	2,140	7,450	2,001	9,451	1,677	11,128
<b>Madura Circle.</b>																
Tatapara	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1,024	522	1,546	607	2,153	573	2,726	511	3,237
"	1913	267	352	619	433	1,052	761	1,813	741	2,554	801	3,355	678	4,033	620	4,653
Madura	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1,178	603	1,781	563	2,344	537	2,881	689	3,520
"	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1,739	766	2,505	616	3,121	609	3,730
Tinnevely	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1,064	340	1,404	260	1,664
"	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1,357	400	1,757	251	2,008
Ammapatam	1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623	228	851	138	989
"	1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618	109	727	183	910
Tondi	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1,070	360	1,430	423	1,853	204	2,057
"	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1,409	402	1,811	150	1,961
Pamban	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294	132	426	100	526
"	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292	75	367	67	434
Total ...	1912	750	813	1,563	1,024	2,587	1,262	3,849	1,905	5,754	2,154	7,908	2,233	10,141	1,852	11,993
"	1913	773	771	1,544	982	2,526	1,808	4,334	2,555	6,889	2,647	9,536	2,280	11,816	1,880	13,696
<b>Salem Circle.</b>																
Salem	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	326	1,103	313	1,416	346	1,762	456	2,218
"	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1,008	166	1,174	185	1,359
Bangalore	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182	64	246	53	299
"	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	nil	118	50	168	24	192
Guntakal	1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91	27	118	45	163
"	1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452	75	527	58	585
Hubli	1912	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124	39	163	16	179
"	1913	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupattur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99	12	111	27	138
Namakal	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316	69	385	78	463
Dharmapuri	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128	59	187	30	217
Atur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249	39	288	66	354
Nanangode	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88	18	106	31	137
Total ...	1912	155	192	347	187	534	439	973	451	1,424	389	1,813	476	2,298	570	2,859
"	1913	201	307	508	480	988	544	1,532	523	2,055	449	2,504	488	2,992	499	3,491

## 15

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.
<b>Palghat Circle.</b>																
Erode	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1,113	202	1,315	173	1,488
"	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1,021	274	1,295	179	1,474	180	1,654
Dindigul	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1,130	357	1,487	373	1,860
"	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1,166	357	1,523	328	1,851	274	2,125
Karur	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528	119	647	198	845
"	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614	103	717	92	809
Palghat	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469	178	647	173	820
"	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482	140	622	134	756
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21
Cannanore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92	19	111	73	184
Total	...	1912	291	358	649	422	1071	616	1717	769	2486	754	3240	856	4096	917
"	...	1913	467	509	976	597	1573	671	2244	918	3162	865	4027	769	4796	753
Grand Total		1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792	12546	42338	11239	53577	9954
"	"	1913	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512	11610	63122	9561

## COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1913.

AGENCIES.				PREVIOUSLY.				TOTAL.				AUGST.				TOTAL.				TOTAL				G. TOTAL.	
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—										M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Inft	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	
1.	Trichinopoly	...	14,737	5,379	5,230	1,918	27,284	2,114	718	687	253	3,772	16,851	8,097	5,937	2,171	31,056								
2.	Tanjore	...	1,145	298	164	101	1,708	110	25	14	11	160	1,255	323	178	112	1,868								
3.	Turaiyur	...	325	159	135	72	691	39	24	11	9	83	364	183	146	81	774								
4.	Musiri	...	358	150	186	55	749	63	27	21	14	122	418	177	207	69	871								
5.	Puducottah	...	868	250	284	80	1,482	128	52	43	24	247	996	302	327	104	1,729								
6.	Manapara	...	1,447	392	237	77	2,153	229	69	58	12	368	1,676	461	295	89	2,521								
			18,880	6,628	6,256	2,303	34,067	2,680	915	834	323	4,752	21,560	7,543	7,090	2,626	38,819								
MADURA CIRCLE:—																									
7.	Tataparai	...	2,466	792	497	278	4,033	370	122	86	42	620	2,836	914	583	320	4,653								
8.	Madura	...	1,970	631	401	119	3,121	356	127	79	47	609	2,326	758	480	168	3,730								
9.	Tinnevely	...	1,190	252	217	98	1,757	164	36	42	9	251	1,354	288	259	107	2,008								
10.	Ammapatnam	...	446	137	110	34	727	111	34	26	12	183	557	171	136	46	910								
11.	Tondi	...	1,129	392	156	134	1,811	92	37	10	11	150	1,221	429	166	145	1,961								
12.	Pamban	...	180	98	61	28	367	29	11	15	12	67	209	109	76	40	434								
			7,381	2,302	1,442	691	11,816	1,122	367	258	133	1,880	8,503	2,669	1,700	824	13,696								
CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—																									
13.	Chingleput	...	1,350	571	231	214	2,366	255	86	40	41	422	1,605	657	271	255	2,788								
14.	Arkonam	...	799	344	103	145	1,391	133	76	20	29	258	932	420	123	174	1,648								
15.	Villupuram	...	1,841	677	275	184	2,977	339	116	42	47	544	2,180	793	317	231	3,521								
16.	Katpadi	...	1,170	454	150	151	1,925	242	108	19	18	387	1,412	562	169	169	2,312								
17.	Coconada	...	26	19	10	3	58	...	Closed	Closed	...	26	19	10	3	58									
18.	Cuddapah	...	227	92	30	27	376	9	6	2	1	18	236	98	32	28	394								
19.	Nellore	...	100	26	8	5	139	2	0	0	0	2	102	26	8	5	141								
20.	Guntur	...	75	37	18	11	141	11	2	1	0	14	86	39	19	11	155								
21.	Chittoor	...	44	18	11	5	78	17	8	4	3	32	61	26	15	8	110								
			5,632	2,238	836	745	9,451	1,008	402	128	139	1,677	6,640	2,640	964	884	11,124								



## COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1913.

SALEM CIRCLE:—	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.
22. Salem	724	220	157	73	1,174	104	42	26	13	185	828	262	183	86	1,359
23. Bangalore	133	23	6	6	168	23	1	0	0	24	156	24	6	6	192
24. Guntakal	368	94	44	21	527	49	6	2	1	58	417	100	46	22	585
25. Hubli	28	8	8	2	46	...	...	Closed	...	...	28	8	8	2	46
26. Tirupathur	68	20	14	9	111	17	7	2	1	27	85	27	16	10	138
27. Namakal	245	72	57	11	385	53	13	6	6	78	298	85	63	17	463
28. Dharmapuri	120	40	16	11	187	20	6	1	3	30	140	46	17	14	217
29. Atur	163	59	35	31	288	29	20	7	10	66	192	79	42	41	354
30. Nanjangode	76	19	8	3	106	17	9	2	3	31	93	28	10	6	137
	1,925	555	345	167	2,992	312	104	46	37	499	2,237	659	391	204	3,491
<hr/>															
PALGHAT CIRCLE:—	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.
31. Erode	941	301	105	127	1,474	128	27	15	10	180	1,069	328	110	137	1,654
32. Dindigul	1163	392	184	112	1,851	176	55	23	20	274	1,339	447	207	132	2,125
33. Karur	413	133	121	50	717	61	16	10	5	92	474	149	131	55	809
34. Palghat	470	77	53	22	622	112	17	3	2	134	582	94	56	24	756
35. Tirur	14	4	2	1	21	...	...	Closed	...	...	14	4	2	1	21
36. Cannanore	70	17	16	8	111	53	10	9	1	73	123	27	25	9	184
TOTAL.	3,071	924	481	320	4,796	530	125	60	38	753	3,601	1,049	541	358	5,549
<hr/>															
GRAND TOTAL.	36,889	12,647	9,360	4,226	63,122	5,652	1,913	1,326	670	561	42,541	14,560	10,686	4,896	63,351
		(63,122)					(9,561)								1912... 63,531

## RIFLE REGIMENTS.

## A Lecture delivered by Colonel R. B. Fell, Commandant, Ceylon Volunteer Force to members of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps.

The lecture which I have been asked to deliver is with the idea of helping you to learn something of the origin of the Corps of Riflemen. The Rifle Battalions of the British Army owe their inception primarily to Colonel Coote Manningham and Stewart; these officers realised how unsatisfactory Light Companies, Grenadier Companies and Irregular Corps were, and they also realised the power of the newly issued Baker Rifle in proper hands. Previous to the raising of a British regiment of Riflemen, there had been in one Army various Corps of Foreign Riflemen wearing the Green Jacket and armed with Rifles. In the American rebellion against Britain, rifles were freely used by the revolted Colonists, and in order to meet the back-woodsmen on equal terms as regards weapons, Jaegers were recruited on the Continent and sent over to America to assist the British Troops. The Rifle Corps of foreigners raised were such as Lowensteins Chasseurs, Hompesch's Regiment, York Rangers, and Waldstein's Chasseurs. In 1798 the 6th (Rifle) Battalion of the 60th Royal Americans was formed from the debris of these regiments; it was entirely composed of foreigners. In 1799 the 6th and 7th Battalions of the same regiment were raised as Rifle Battalions to serve in the West Indies and America. We cannot, however, accept these Battalions as British Riflemen, it was not till 1815 that the Red Jacket of the 60th Royal Americans came to an end. In 1800 Colonel Coote Manningham persuaded the authorities to form an Experimental Corps of Riflemen and orders were issued to 14

Regiments of the Line each to supply 2 Sergeants and 32 Rank and File of picked men, with proportion of officers, to form the Experimental Rifle Corps.

In April 1800 these men were assembled at Horsham Barracks under the command of Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. William Stewart and commenced their training as Riflemen. On August 25th 200 of these Riflemen landed with an expedition to the North of Spain at Ferrol, and took part in a sharp engagement; this skirmish was the baptism in blood of British Riflemen. In October, 1800, Colonel Coote Manningham's Rifle Corps is seen for the first time in the Army List. Fortescue in his history of the British Army says:—"It is no exaggeration to say the formation of the Rifle Brigade marks a new era in the history of British Infantry." It may interest you to know that the first officer of the Rifle Battalion to be killed was a Captain Grant, their Adjutant, who fell gloriously fighting the Quarter Deck Guns of H. M. S. Isis at the battle of Copenhagen, a Company of the Rifles having been sent with the Fleet and that Lord Nelson personally wrote to Colonel Stewart, expressing his pleasure at the behaviour of the Riflemen and hoping the Government would increase their Rifle Corps. The uniform of the Riflemen was practically the same as it is to-day. In 1802 the Corps of Riflemen was officially numbered as the 95th Rifles.

The Rifles issued to these Riflemen in 1800 were the first Rifles issued to the British Army, and it may interest you to know that even in those days Riflemen slung their arms.

On the formation of Rifle Battalions, their peculiar duties as Skirmishers rendered Colours an impossibility. They have never been issued to a Rifle Battalion and the battle honours are carried on the Cross Belts of the Officers.

Riflemen have always been ahead of the times, and the rest of the British Army are now doing what was done by Colonel Cooté Manningham's Riflemen a hundred years ago.

The similarity between what these originators of Riflemen laid down and what is in force in our Army at the present day is extraordinary. Marksmen, first and second class shots, Medals for bravery, good conduct badges, school certificates and, above all, decentralization had their genesis from Colonel Cooté Manningham.

The Bugle Horn has always been the musical instrument of the Riflemen, it takes the place of the Drum of the Linesman, and the Scottish Rifles have in addition added to it the warlike music of the Bagpipe.

In a lecture delivered in 1803 Colonel Cooté Manningham says: "Riflemen are, as it were, a light, a beacon for the General, they should constantly inform him of the situation, the movements and the nature of the enemy's designs. "Again he says: "The safety of the Army depends frequently on the vigilance, the expertness and the superiority of the Light Troops compared to those of the enemy," and I think the following quotation from a lecture by the same officer in 1802 is well worth extracting. "Every officer of Light Troops should know how to occupy a post, how to keep it, how to support, and

how to retire from it if necessary, he should be well acquainted with the means and precautions necessary to secure himself upon all marches; how to penetrate the enemies' chain of sentries, to reconnoitre his position, his force and his movements, the circumstances which favour an attack on those places he may occupy, as well as such as are unfavourable to himself when attacking."

I have now shortly sketched for you the origin of the famous Rifle Corps of the British Army, whose Bugles have been heard on every battle-field and every Campaign undertaken by Great Britain for more than a hundred years and whose successors down to the present day, have shown themselves worthy to uphold the ancient fame of these Regiments and to uphold those glorious Rifle traditions which have been handed down untarnished since the Napoleonic wars. It was the system which made the Riflemen, and now that things are levelling up all round, it is the *Esprit de Corps*, which still keeps the Rifle Regiment a little ahead of all others.

NOTE.—By the Officer Commanding Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps. The so-called "Colours," presented by His Late Majesty the King to the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps, are officially designated by the name of "banner."

### CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month Ending August, 1913.

DETAIL.																				Instructional Staff.							
Regtl. Staff.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Serg't. Major.	Regt. Q. M. Serg't.	Farr. Q. M. Serg't.	S. S. Majors.	Serg't. Tpts.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Serg't. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet'y. Officer.	Total.
Staff	No.	1	...	1	2	1	5	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	1	1	1	...	...	3
A. Squadron.																											
No.	I. Troop	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	18	21	22	...	...	...	...	...	
"	II. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	9	10	11	...	...	...	...	...	
"	III. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	24	27	28	...	...	...	...	...	
"	IV. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	3	1	20	28	29	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTAL		...	2	...	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	6	6	1	71	89	95	...	...	...	...	...	
B. Squadron.																											
Staff	No.	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	
No.	I. Troop	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	1	10	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	
"	II. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	12	15	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	
"	III. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	21	24	25	...	...	...	...	...	
"	IV. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	11	15	16	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTAL		...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	1	3	2	3	54	71	77	...	...	...	...	...	
Total Regt. Staff		...	1	...	1	2	1	5	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total A. Squadron		...	2	...	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	6	5	1	71	89	95	...	...	...	...	...	
Total B. Squadron		...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	1	3	2	3	54	71	77	...	...	...	...	...	
Total Strength		...	1	3	2	10	1	17	1	1	1	2	2	9	...	2	9	7	4	125	163	180	1	1	1	...	3
Total Strength last Return		...	1	2	3	10	1	17	1	1	1	2	2	10	...	2	9	7	4	125	164	181	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Decrease Since		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Establishment		...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	...	...	...	...	
Wanting to Complete		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	...	4	1	4	59	71	72	...	...	...	...	...	
Reserve		...	1	1	2	6	10	1	1	...	1	...	5	...	...	2	1	...	14	25	35	...	...	...	...	...	
Total including Reserve		...	2	4	4	16	1	27	2	2	1	3	2	15	...	2	11	8	4	139	188	215	1	1	1	...	3

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,  
Adj't. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



## STERILIZING MANURES.

Department of Agriculture,  
Peradeniya, Ceylon,  
4/5th September, 1913.

The SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

SIR, With reference to your letter dated November 12th, 1912, and in continuation of my letter No. 411 of February 7th, 1913, I have the honour to attach copy of a Report by the Botanist and Mycologist on the presence of weed seeds in manures.

2. You will observe that Mr. Petch's investigations have been of an exhaustive character, and that the results afford no grounds for supposing that weeds are traceable to manures.

3. There would seem, therefore to be no justification in this connection for advising that manures should be sterilized upon their importation into Ceylon.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
R. N. LYNE,  
Director of Agriculture.

## WEED SEEDS IN MANURES.

The following investigations were undertaken to determine whether artificial manures and manure mixtures contained weed seeds capable of germination.

2. The soil used in the experiments was sterilised by boiling in small quantities at a time. It was then left to dry in the laboratory for about three weeks, pulverised when dry, and mixed with sand which had been sterilised at the same time as the soil, by heating. The mixed soil and sand was then filled into seed pans, watered, and left for a few days.

3. Samples of the following manures were received from Colombo firms.

Firm A.—Rape cake.  
Ground nut cake.  
Castor cake from India.  
Castor cake from Europe "treated with sulphur."

Firm B.—Castor cake.  
Ground nut cake.  
Rape cake.

Firm C.—Ground nut cake.  
Rape cake.  
Special selected castor cake.  
Ordinary castor cake.

4. Samples of these, each weighing 100 grams, were mixed with sterilised sand and then mixed with the top layers of the soil in the seed pans to a depth of about half an inch. The pans were watered, covered with glass plates which were periodically removed for ventilation, and placed near the windows in an empty room in the laboratory. The experiment was continued for three months, without the appearance of any weeds. The control plots (2) which had been treated in the same way, but without the addition of manure were also blank.

5. As it had been suggested that seeds were introduced with the cake manures, but remained dormant until the subsequent application of Basic slag and sulphate of Potash, these, after sterilising by heating, were added to the seed pans under experiment. This treatment did not result in the production of any weeds.

6. Samples of manures were then obtained from several estates, taken from the bulk after arrival on the estates. These were as follows:—

Estate A.—Mixture consisting of Ground nut cake, crushed fish, Blood Meal, steamed bones, Nitrate of Potash.

Estate B.—Mixture consisting of Ground nut cake, Blood Meal, steamed bone dust, Muriate of Potash, Sulphate of Ammonia, Nitrate of Potash, conc. superphosphate.

Estate C.—Mixture consisting of Ground nut cake, Blood Meal, steamed bone dust, Muriate of Potash, Sulphate of Ammonia, Nitrate of Potash, conc. superphosphate.

Estate D.—No. 1. Mixture containing fish, Castor cake, ordinary superphosphate, steamed bones, Bone Meal, Sulphate of Ammonia, Sulphate of Potash.

No. 2. Mixture containing Ground nut cake, Rape cake, Ammonium sulphate, Blood Meal, steamed bone meal, Sulphate of Potash.

These five samples were treated in the same way as the first eleven, with equally negative results.

7. As it has frequently been stated that weeds can be grown from samples of manure, merely by moistening them and leaving them on the verandah, this rough and ready method of testing was tried. The tests, however, were made in the laboratory to prevent the possibility of wind-borne seeds obtaining access. No weeds grew in any case.

8. After the negative results of the pot trials, the remaining portion of each sample of manure (up to 4 lbs. in some cases) was graded by sifting through standard sieves into portions each consisting of particles of approximately equal size, and these portions were examined with a lens for weed seeds. In all cases but one, no weed seeds were found. The exception was Mixture No. 2, Estate D. From two pounds of that mixture, seventy five weed seeds, apparently sound, were separated. These were subjected to a germination test on damp blotting paper, but all of them proved to be dead.

9. It may be noted that Rape cake frequently contains fragments of seeds, e.g., halves of leguminous seeds, pieces of grains of barley, which are quite evident on casual inspection. The sifting tests here adopted show that it contains weed seeds also, but so far, these have all turned out to be dead. This latter result agrees with the manufacturers' statement that the oil is extracted from rape seed by a solvent process.

10. The results of all these tests go to prove that the manures in common use do not contain viable weed seeds (i.e., seeds capable of germination). But one must bear in mind the proverbial impossibility of proving a negative.

11. Several planters have kindly forwarded specimens of the weeds found on manured and unmanured fields respectively, or on fields manured with different mixtures. More specimens are required before any deductions can be made, and information is particularly desired as to which seeds predominate.

12. From the specimens available at present, it may be stated that the weeds complained of are all well-known Ceylon weeds. No new species have been found among

the examples sent in. Many of them bear seeds which are distributed by the wind, e.g., *Gynura lycopersicifolia*, *Crepis japonica*, *Emilia sonchifolia*, *Ageratum conyzoides*, *Vernonia Hookeriana*, *Sonchus oleraceus*, etc., but the majority of the species do not. In that particular, however it is not possible to arrive at any conclusion without information concerning the relative abundance of the various species sent in. Seeds which are distributed by adhering to animals are represented by the common *Bidens pilosa* and *Cynoglossum micranthum*.

13. It is particularly noticeable that the weeds especially complained of in up and mid-country districts are known to have been naturalised in the Nuwara Eliya district for many years. There seems to be no doubt that these weeds are now spreading on. This fact—that the “new” weeds have been derived from higher elevations—goes far to disprove the idea that they have been introduced with manures. The sow thistle and chickweed are examples of weeds which are extending their range downwards.

14. A few particular cases may be noted in the present report. A more detailed study of the common weeds will be made as time permits.

15. The weed which is said to follow an application of basic slag in the low-country is *Peperomia Fraseri*. This is a very common weed, with a succulent stem and leaves, which dies down in the dry season. It is a native of Tropical America and could not be introduced with basic slag. It may grow better on soil manured with basic slag than elsewhere, but that point can only be decided by experiment.

16. *Scoparia Dulcis*, usually known as coriander weed, is common in low-country districts. This is a South American plant which was first noticed about Galle in 1871. Trimen recorded in 1895 that it was a common weed by roadsides in the south of the Island. It appears to be extending its range upwards and is now fairly common at Peradeniya.

17. *Cardamine Subumbellata*—“Mustard and Cress”—which appears to be one of the chief “new” weeds, is a native of Ceylon. Thwaites stated that it grew above 4,000 ft. Trimen gave its distribution as “Montane zone, in open places, rather common.” It seems to have spread widely during recent years. One Superintendent writes that he has been resident in Dimbula for over 30 years but never saw this weed before 1907.

18. *Cardamine Subumbellata* and *Gnaphalium Indicum* (wild mignonette) are said to always follow an application of standard mixture on one estate. Trimen noted that the latter had recently become a common weed on estates in the hill district, having apparently been introduced about 1880.

19. The sow thistle (*Sonchus* spp.) was stated by Thwaites to be a common weed in the Central Province before 1860. It appears to be extending its range in both directions.

20. Though it does not come within the scope of this Report, it may be noted for general information that the bulbs of *Oxalis* may be destroyed by spraying them with liquid fuel. One of the difficulties in dealing with *Oxalis* is the disposal of the bulbs after they are dug out. If they are deposited in a pit, and sprayed with liquid fuel they die. This method cannot be used for killing growing *Oxalis* among tea, as the oil kills or injures all plants. In

an experiment at Hakga'a in which a patch *Oxalis* was sprayed with liquid fuel, all the plants then above ground were killed. The young bulbs in the soil were, however, not touched and are now producing new plants, so that a second application will be necessary. A strong castor plant on the same plot was killed, but it remains to be seen whether a young tree growing in the same place is affected.

T. PETCH,

28th September, 1913.

Botanist & Mycologist.



## THE BREEDING POWER OF PESTS.

### INTERESTING FIGURES.

Mr. Bainbrigge Fletcher, the Imperial Entomologist, said that when he had visited Mysore and Coorg it was before the outbreak of this scale, and as far as he was able to see there was no scale there at the time. He had, however, since seen the scale on the Shevaroy and Anamalais. On the Shevaroy he believed it has been in existence for the last ten years, but had apparently done little damage. On the Anamalais it was very bad on the northern slope. On the Nilgiris, he had not seen it to any extent, but they all knew, and the planters knew better than he, how much damage it has done there. He believed that in some parts it had gone so far as to wipe out the coffee completely. In Ceylon the scale was introduced about forty or fifty years ago when coffee was the staple industry. It was believed to have been brought in from Brazil. It was one of those pests which had been brought in from outside countries, and those pests did the greatest amount of damage, because they came in by themselves without bringing their parasites and natural enemies with them, and thus were able to live and increase under abnormal conditions. The rate at which these insects were able to multiply was something one could hardly realise. Taking for an example an insect which laid 200 eggs and went through its stages in one month, which was a very average rate of increase and time. If on the 1st January such an insect laid 200 eggs, by the end of the year they would find that from that one insect over two trillions of insects had come into existence. They could not realise what an enormous quantity those figures represented, so he would try and give them an illustration. If 1,000 of these insects occupied a space of a cubic inch, two trillions would cover the whole land surface of the world to a depth of 80 ft. Again, taking 1,000 to the cubic inch, put all together in one mass, two trillions would occupy a space of seven million cubic miles, or a cube which measured 200 miles on each edge. Fortunately, no insect in this world multiplied at this rate, because it had to fight so many enemies in the course of its existence. In the case of an insect brought in new to the country, it escaped to a large extent these enemies. For this reason it was that these introduced pests were so important. Therefore, when a pest like the Green Bug was brought into the country, it found as much food as it required and could and did multiply at an enormous rate without restraint. In the case of the Green Bug there were very few parasites that

preyed on it. There was a fungus which attacked it in the wetter time of the year, but they could not rely on fungus to keep this scale wholly in check, as during the dry season the fungus could not spread while the scale went on increasing and extracting moisture from the plants at a time of the year when moisture was most deficient in the soil.

*The Planters' Chronicle.*

#### CEYLON AT THE CORONA CLUB DINNER.

"Ceylon suffered this year a great loss in the retirement, from ill-health, of Sir Henry McCallum, who sits next to me this evening. (Applause.) Owing to the severity of his illness he was to use his own words to me—"smuggled away"—a process which saved him some effort, but which deprived the Island he had so successfully governed of the opportunity of expressing to him and to Lady McCallum the affection and esteem which they have left in the hearts of those they so benignly ruled. (Applause.)"

"To him succeeds—and this will be a piece of news to you—Sir Robert Chalmers—(applause)—the head of the Treasury and the British Civil Service, who lays down the prize of his profession to take up responsibilities for which he is specially fitted. It has been my privilege to know Sir Robert Chalmers for over 20 years, and to know him is to realise his supreme capacity for administration. But it is only those who are admitted to the intimacy of his private life who know that he is also a finished scholar of the Pali language, and a student of and contributor to the history and literature of the East. Sir Robert Chalmers will find there, as his Colonial Secretary, Mr. Stubbs, who is now adding further experience to an already wide knowledge of the problems with which he is called upon to deal, and none who knew him in the Colonial Office will doubt either his capacity or success."

"I think I have shown you a good case for the advantages of the interchangeability of the Home and Colonial services. I believe that it is for the profit and progress of each, but it must be conducted upon the basis of Bismarck's formula "Do ut des." This system does not stop the stream of promotion—I should think it had if it did—but it varies, in my opinion with great advantage, the avenues of endeavour and the goal of attainment."

[This extract from the speech made by the Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, M.P., at the fourteenth annual dinner of the Corona Club is of interest to us here in Ceylon. The final paragraph is strikingly in accord with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Thos. North Christie in our last issue.—ED.]

#### AN ART GALLERY & LECTURE HALL FOR COLOMBO.

We desire to make an appeal to the General public of Ceylon, at what we believe to be an opportune moment, on behalf of the Societies which are trying to promote the advancement of art and learning in this Island.

The aims of such bodies as the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, the Ceylon Society of Arts and Ceylon Natural History Society cannot but commend themselves to everybody, and there can be no doubt that these Societies are rendering a considerable service to the community in their respective departments. It is a matter for regret, therefore, that these institutions have no suitable headquarters. It is true that since its foundation the Colombo Museum has very appropriately been regarded as the home of the various Societies,

and in the case of the Royal Asiatic Society in particular this connexion has been a long and intimate one and has been productive of many mutual benefits. But experience has shown that it is neither convenient to the Museum authorities nor satisfactory to the Societies concerned that a small room, which in no way lends itself to the requirements of public meetings, should be periodically emptied of its furniture for the purpose of Society gatherings. There is, then, a distinct need for a Lecture Hall, and it is to be hoped that sufficient public interest may be stimulated to provide Colombo with a building suitable for the needs of learned Societies.

In the second place there can be no doubt that a suitable room is urgently needed for the yearly exhibition held by the Ceylon Society of Arts. If such a room were provided, the Society would be able to arrange for loan exhibitions and gradually to form an art collection. It has often been pointed out that Colombo ought to have its permanent Art Gallery. The modest scheme which we now suggest will not at once provide or equip an Art Gallery worthy of the capital of a prosperous and important community. But it will, if properly and wisely carried out, provide a building on a suitable site which may by public and private generosity, be developed into the Art Gallery which we all feel to be an essential feature of the Colombo of the future.

The scheme which we have in view is briefly as follows:—A building containing one room about 100 feet by 40 feet and two small ante-rooms will be erected on a selected site. The large room will be illuminated by windows placed high up in the walls, thus providing ample wall space for requirements of Art Exhibitions. The foundations and walls will be made sufficiently strong to bear an upper storey if required in future, and the building will be designed so as to be capable of lateral expansion. It is proposed to ask the public to contribute a sum of not less than Rs. 30,000 for this purpose, and, if the appeal is successful, Government will be asked to give an appropriate site. From every point of view it is highly desirable that such a building should be in close proximity to the Museum.

It will be seen that this scheme offers a solution to two serious difficulties by which the learned Societies are confronted, and it is to be hoped that those who are interested in the objects for which these Societies have been founded will respond to the appeal for funds to build a combined Art Gallery and Lecture Hall in Colombo.

A public meeting will be called at an early date when a concrete scheme will be submitted. In the meantime the undersigned will be glad to receive cheques or promises of assistance. The names of donors of Rs. 1,000 and over will be permanently inserted in some part of the building.

J. HARWARD,

*President, Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.*

E. A. COLOMBO,

*President, The Ceylon Society of Arts.*

F. M. MACKWOOD,

*President, The Ceylon Natural History Society.*

JOSEPH PEARSON,

*Director, Colombo Museum.*

15th August, 1913.



Deanstone,  
Rangalla,  
13th September, 1913.

The EDITOR,  
*The Planting Gazette*,  
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

Mr. Rutherford Lee's article in last number on "Castes" was so interesting and instructive that I am sure that many of your readers would welcome another, giving more information about the lower Tamil Castes of Suddras who come over to Ceylon.

Yours faithfully,  
C. B. CLAY.

[We hope Mr. Rutherford Lee will comply.—ED.]

#### WEED SEED IN MANURES.

The EDITOR,  
*Planting Gazette*.

SIR,

Mr. Petch's report on the above subject is interesting; to me particularly so, in that when I first approached you I did not know that he was making the experiments, the results of which he has given us.

These results seem convincing. Even the more sceptical among your readers must admit the honesty of the experiments; and, manure being acquitted of the main charge against it, we must look elsewhere for the source of the weed seeds which germinate so freely after the application of manure.

I am afraid that, dating from the last few years, the number of estates that can claim to have been regularly clean weeded is comparatively few. It is idle therefore to speculate on the vitality of dormant seed, so far as the bulk of the island is concerned; and it is wiser to take it for granted that the seed is already in the soil before manuring. It is probable, too, that wind-borne seed is a most important element.

The following postulates may be safely accepted. Let it be granted (1) that manure assists weed growth; (2) that weeds diminish crop. It follows then, with school-boy logic, that manure diminishes crop. Which is absurd.

Speaking seriously, it is a moot question how much of the manurial value of the mixtures we now apply is lost to the estate by an insufficient attention to climatic effects. I would like to lay it down as an axiom that manure applied at the commencement of the dry weather is less likely to encourage weed growth than the mere tillage of the soil in wet weather. There is too much rule of thumb and too little thought in the modern methods.

The main causes of weeds nowadays are these: (1) a too ready belief on the part of the present day planter and his coolies that weeds *must* follow manuring (this way lies faint-heartedness); (2) an equally ready belief that manure should be applied just so many months after pruning, independent of all weather considerations.

Yours, &c.,  
FRED. S. ELSON.

## GOVERNMENT PLAN OF COOLIE LINES.

Strathdan,  
Hatton, 17th September, 1913.

To THE EDITOR,  
*Planting Gazette*,  
Kandy.

After careful examination of the Plan of the Coolie Lines in the last *Planting Gazette* I have come to the conclusion that a more unsuitable design for up-country Estates could not be devised. The following are the chief objections:—

(1) The highly inflammable nature of the building—wooden floors, board walls, and ceiling, are hardly suitable for the Tamil cooly, who has been accustomed to an open fire for centuries. Such a building would soon be burnt to the ground.

(2) The draught through the cracks of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. floors, in cold wet districts would be unbearable and intensely unpopular with our labour.

(3) There would be a lack of privacy in the rooms owing to cracks in the partition boards.

(4) Rooms perched up on the top of 7 ft. pillars are surely unnecessary, and when you consider the large number of young children left unattended in most lines in Ceylon, and the great probability of injury, and fatal injury, by falling down the steps, the absurdity of the plan becomes more apparent.

(5) 22-gauge Corrugated Roofing iron is most unusual, and I think, a needless expense.

It is possible that the whole design may have been copied from other countries where the climate is highly malarious, and where the buildings are occupied by races other than Tamils, and one would not expect housing accommodation such as this to be acceptable under totally different conditions, with a race of people who have been accustomed from time immemorial to a house with but one floor, and an open fire.

It is much to be regretted that such an absurd, unpractical plan was ever allowed to see the light of day, or find a place in our official organ.

M. L. WILKINS.

Wiltshire,  
Matale,  
22nd August, 1913.

THE EDITOR,  
*The Planting Gazette*.

DEAR SIR,

In view of the serious fall in price of rubber and the consequent necessity to economise, I have collected a few notes on the subject of Ragi (Kurraikan), etc., as a substitute or partial substitute for the present rice issue on estates.

(1) Ragi or Kurraikan as a staple diet, it is said to be more largely in use generally in South India than rice.

(2) It is said to be preferred as a staple diet to rice, not only on account of its cheapness, but on account of its greater nourishing properties.

(3) My personal knowledge is to the effect that in the Rannad district cultivators grow paddy, but sell all their crops in exchange for Ragi, "Varagu," Tennai, i.e., the Italian millet, etc., which grains form their staple diet. "Varagu" is a grain very similar to Kurraikan (Ragi), but larger and is apparently preferred to Ragi when it can be obtained.

"Tennai" is the Tanna Hal of the Sinhalese, and is well known in the colony.

(4) The price of Ragi in South India has been quoted by a friend at 2.15 per bushel.

In Kurunegala at Rs. 1.90 or rather less. In Matale Ragi (Kurraikan) can be bought in the boutique retail at 06 cts. per measure, which would work out at Rs. 1.68 per bushel. The wholesale price would therefore be considerably less.

(5) It is manifest that Ragi could be produced in very large quantities at the rate of about Rs. 1.50 per bushel or even less.

There is almost an unlimited area of waste lands in the colony suitable for the product should a demand for it arise.

(6) One of the Ceylon Assistant Labour Commissioners has recently expressed his opinion to the effect that recruiting for Ceylon would be very favourably affected were it known on the coast that Ragi would be issued in lieu of the rice ration.

(7) Many estates at the present time are issuing rice at Rs. 4-40 per bushel. Some at Rs. 4-00. The loss being in Matale from Rs. 1-00 to Rs. 1-40 per bushel and relatively heavier in more remote districts.

In view of the fact that the normal diet of the South Indian Labourer is Ragi or other grains which cost about Rs. 2-00 per bushel, and that he prefers this diet to the less nourishing but much more expensive rice which we insist on issuing to him, the heavy loss which most properties are sustaining is a gratuitous and unnecessary one.

At present the whole of this expensive food supply has to be imported, and the high cost is maintained artificially by the producers. The colony could probably produce all its requirements in the way of Ragi, Millet, etc., and thereby save millions of rupees per annum which would go into circulation locally instead of into the neighbouring continent or elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,  
E. GORDON REEVES.

24, Rood Lane,  
London, E.C., 12th August, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I must begin by congratulating you on the *Planting Gazette*, which has, I hope, a long period of usefulness before it. I read it with all the greater interest because you refer to the printed proceedings of the Planters' Association in 1877, page 30, you will find that I was with you in idea. My ideal perished for lack of that public interest which now seem to be fully aroused.

My object in writing to you is to ask if you could kindly draw attention in the *Gazette* to the advantages which members of your Association when at home can derive from the Ceylon Association in London. I think it is sometimes lost sight of that members of the P. A. while at home become members of the Ceylon Association in London, that no subscriptions are required of them that have all the privileges of the Association, and have at their disposal in a most convenient place in the city, a room where they can receive and write their letters, make appointments, meet their friends, and have access to the London and Ceylon newspapers, and all the latest market reports.

Shortly after the dinner at which we recently entertained Sir Robert Chalmers, a Ceylon man rather indignantly accosted me and said, "Why did I not hear of this dinner?" and I know "others who would have come if they had known of it." The answer was that if his name and address had been left at the Ceylon Association, he would have certainly have heard of it, I quite appreciate the disinclination of anyone home from Ceylon for a holiday to spend more time than he can help in the city of London, but registering his name and address need not even entail a visit and will ensure his getting due notice of any business or social functions.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
J. LOUDON SHAND.

## NOTICE.

### Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at its last Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

## NOTICE.

### Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kangannies proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

## NOTICE.

### A. Forms.

The following resolution was passed at the meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for or a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

## NOTICE.

### Bangalore Agency.

In view of the difficulties placed in the way of emigration at Bangalore, the Commissioner has advised the closing of the Agency there, and the opening of another at Kuppam.

Unless strong reasons are given to the contrary, the above plans will be carried out as from 1st December next.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.



[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,577 of August 22, 1913.]

No. 2,455, S. O.—On Friday, October 17, 1913, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Kurunegala Kacheheri, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Ten allotments of land situated in the Tittaweligandaha korale of the Hiriyala hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

## Preliminary plan 1,943. Ginigama.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant.	Description.	Extent		
				A.	R.	P.
9863	Ginigamamukalana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	... 41	2	0
9863½	Do	... do ...	... do ...	... 0	1	29
R 899	Ginigamakele	... do ...	... Chena ...	... 58	3	17
S 899	Do	... do ...	... do ...	... 1	3	0
T 899	Do	... do ...	... do ...	... 0	3	31
U 899	Do	... do ...	... do ...	... 0	3	39

## Preliminary plan 1,943.—Kuda Kiula.

L 899	Kudakiulakele	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	... 59	3	29
L 899½	Do	... do ...	... Chena ...	... 0	2	33
N 899	Do	... do ...	... do ...	... 2	1	27
M 899	Do	... do ...	... do ...	... 1	0	27

Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, August 20, 1913.

L. W. BOOTH,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

## INTERNATIONAL RUBBER CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION.

TO BE HELD AT BATAVIA (JAVA),  
SEPTEMBER, 1914.

An international Rubber Congress and Exhibition will be held at Batavia (Java) in 1914, the importance of which is not under-estimated in view of the fact that 260,000 acres are planted with rubber in the Netherlands East Indies and that 2,249 tons of rubber were exported from the Indies in 1911. It is therefore obvious that the Dutch eastern possessions occupy an important position on the list of rubber-producing countries of the tropical East.

The excellent collection of exhibits from the Netherlands East Indies at the International Rubber Exhibitions held in London in 1906 and 1911 are sufficient guarantee that no pains will be spared to make the Batavia Congress and Exhibition a success.

The Congress and Exhibition will be held under the auspices of the Netherlands East Indian Government. H. R. H. The Prince Consort of the Netherlands has honored the undertaking with the Patronage, and the valuable support of His Excellency the Governor-General and of His Honor the Director of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry is assured. The international importance of the Congress and Exhibition needs but little explanation. The amount of foreign capital invested in rubber-estates in the Netherlands East Indies amounts to £18,500,000, of which £14,922,490 British, £138,000 German, £800,000 American, and £2,500,000 Belgian.

The Congress will be of incalculable importance to all concerned with rubber-growing in the tropical East, as the views of well-known authorities on vital questions will most certainly throw light on many matters of consequence. Both Congress and Exhibition will be unique inasmuch as, being held in a rubber-producing country, rubber-yielding

species will be planted in the Exhibition grounds, and rubber-estates in the vicinity of Batavia and elsewhere in the Indies can be visited.

Batavia, the capital of Java, is most favourably situated for the Congress and Exhibition. It is connected by regular steamship lines with Europe and all the important ports of the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, India, Ceylon and other parts of the East.

The Municipality of Batavia has, in view of the great importance of the Exhibition, granted the loan of a large plot of land in the centre of the upper town, Weltevreden, within a few minutes' distance from the hotels, railway-stations and trams.

A very active interest is being taken in the undertaking by His Honor the Director of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry, the agricultural associations in the Netherlands Indies and all important commercial houses which have rubber interests. This decidedly augurs well for its success. The object of the CONGRESS, which will be held from the 7th to the 12th September, 1914, is the study of the scientific, economical, technical and commercial questions, which concern the rubber culture and industry. Well-known authorities will be invited to contribute dissertations and the subjects which are best suited for the purpose will, after they have been reported upon, be brought into debate during the Congress. At the conclusion of the Congress the dissertations, the reports thereon and the reports of the debates will be printed.

A Congress Committee is charged with the preliminary arrangements in connection with the Congress, which will be divided into 8 sections, viz. :—

1. Botany and Zoölogy.
2. Climate and Soil.
3. Culture and Crop.
4. Preparation, etc.
5. Working policy, etc.
6. Synthetic Rubber.
7. Commerce, and
8. Publications.

The Secretary of the Committee, Dr. C. J. J. VAN HALL, Buitenzorg (Java), will willingly supply any information desired concerning the Congress, a definite programme of which will shortly be issued.

The object of the EXHIBITION, which will be held from September 8th to October 10th, 1914, is to show how the culture and preparation of rubber is conducted in the principal producing countries, so as to obtain an idea how this is done in various parts of the globe. The necessary attention will also be devoted to wild rubber species.

A separate Committee to the Congress Committee is charged with the preliminary arrangements in connection with the Exhibition, all correspondence concerning which should be addressed to the Secretary-General.

In order that those interested may become acquainted with manufactured rubber-goods, an exhibition of these will also be held. The manufactured goods exhibited may be offered for sale.

**PRIZES AND DIPLOMAS.** A list of which will be published later, will be offered. Governments, corporations, associations and private persons or firms will be permitted to offer special prizes for exhibits or, after consultation with the Committee, form special competitions in connection with the culture and preparation of rubber and to lay down, if desired, special conditions regarding such competitions.

**THE JURY** will be international.

**APPLICATIONS FOR SPACES** should be made to the Secretary-General before November 1st, 1913. The application should mention the number of square metres floor area or wall area required.

Space will be allotted by the Committee.

Exhibitors will be permitted to erect their own buildings for the exposition of exhibits. The plans and designs of such buildings will however have to be approved of by the Committee.

No charge will be made for exhibits which will not occupy more than 5 square metres, excepting for tools and machinery, for which the tariff is 10 guilders per square metre wall area and 25 guilders per square metre floor area. For exhibits likely to occupy more than 5 square metres wall area or floor area there is a special tariff, which will be sent post free on application.

**AGREEMENTS** will be made with the railway companies and steamship lines for cheap freight-rates, particulars of which can be obtained on application from the Secretary-General. Costs of transport are for account of the exhibitors. The Committee will attend, on request, to the receipt, transport to the Exhibition grounds and unpacking of exhibits, but will not accept any responsibility for damage which the goods may suffer during transport.

The Committee will also attend to the protection of the exhibits during the days the Exhibition is open and will insure them free of charge against fire and burglary for the value declared by the exhibitors. The Government of the Netherlands Indies will exempt exhibits from the payment of customs duties.

All machinery for which motive power is required should be at the Exhibition grounds on or before July 10th, 1914. The Committee will take the necessary measures so that the erection of the machinery can be commenced on that date. The building material required will be on the spot, providing it is applied for before March 21st,

1914. All other exhibits must be on the spot on or before August 1st, 1914. Live plants and perishable goods can be received until September 1st, 1914.

Exhibitors are advised to attend personally to the arrangement of their exhibits within the space allotted to them. In the event of their not being able to do this, the Committee will attend to it free of charge. For the erection of machinery the services of an expert will be available, if required, for account however and at the responsibility of the exhibitors, who will be called upon to pay the cost of the building material used for the foundation.

#### PATRON :

His Royal Highness the Prince of the Netherlands,  
Duke of Mecklenburg.

#### HONORARY PRESIDENTS :

His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency the Minister for the Colonies.

His Excellency the Governor-General of the Netherlands Indies.

#### GOVERNMENT-COMMISSIONER :

H. J. Lovink, Director of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry.

#### ADDRESSES

For correspondence concerning the Congress :

Dr. C. J. J. VAN HALL, Secretary of the Congress-Committee, Buitenzorg (Java).

For correspondence on FINANCIAL MATTERS :

A. F. MARMEI STEIN, Esq., Chairman of the Financial Committee, Batavia (Java.)

For correspondence on all OTHER SUBJECTS :

The Secretary-General of the International Rubber Congress and Exhibition, Batavia, 1914, Weltevreden (Java.)

### REQUEST FOR SPACE.

The undersigned.....

residing at.....

being desirous of participating in the above mentioned Exhibition, hereby wishes to engage an area of.....

square metres  $\frac{\text{wall area}}{\text{floor area}}$  for his exhibit consisting of :

and for which.....H. P. is required.

(Signature)

To the Secretary,  
of the International Rubber Exhibition

at

BATAVIA.

(To be sent in not later than November 1st, 1913.)

**The Fourth International  
RUBBER  
and Allied Industries  
EXHIBITION  
COMPETITIONS.**

London : 24th June to 9th July, 1914.

Address all communications to:—

Miss F. FULTON,                      A. STAINES MANDERS,  
Secretary.                              Manager.

75, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

**THE PRESIDENT'S TROPHY.**

Presented by

SIR HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

Open to all countries.

The PRESIDENT has kindly intimated that he will present a Trophy for the exhibit proving of greatest interest in connection with the production, preparation, or use of Rubber in any form.

**DETAILS.**

The Award, to be made by competent Judges, may be given as follows:—

- 1.—To the Manufacturer showing the greatest variety of articles made from Rubber, or it may be for one article only.
- 2.—Or it may go to a Manufacturer of Machinery, or for some labour-saving device that would benefit Manufacturers or Planters.
- 3.—Or for some simple invention of great value to all connected with the Rubber Industry.
- 4.—Or to the Exhibitor of some article which demonstrates how largely Rubber may be used for general and commercial use in a way hitherto unknown.

The Award will be called "The PRESIDENT'S TROPHY." There will be no entrance fee, and no entry will be required as the Judges will visit the various Exhibits in the building and make their award from them.

The Judges will inspect and test all Exhibits they may think worthy, and make their award according to their own judgment, no matter from what country the Exhibit may come.

Therefore a Manufacturer, Chemist, Planter, Inventor, Maker of Machinery, etc., has equal prospects of carrying off the Trophy.

**COMPETITION:  
DIAMOND JUBILEE TROPHY.**

Will be awarded for the best and second best samples of  
Commercial Rubber,  
*to commemorate*

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION  
OF CEYLON.

*Open to Planters who are Members of the Planters' Association  
of Ceylon.*

An engraved Certificate will also be presented to the successful  
Competitors.

*Rules of the Competition:—*

- 1.—The best sample of plantation rubber, any description; weight of each sample to be not less than an ordinary case. Competitors may make one, two, or three entries, but a separate entry, with description of the Rubber being exhibited, must be made for each case.
- 2.—Only *bona fide* Planters of the above are eligible to compete. Samples of Rubber exhibited in connection with this Competition must have been produced upon the property of, and prepared for the market by, the exhibiting Company, Firm, or Individual. Competing exhibits will be brought together in one collection, to be known as the DIAMOND JUBILEE COMPETITION. **There will be no Entrance Fee,** and no Competitor may send more than three samples.
- 3.—Free space, stands for displaying samples, unpacking, etc., will be undertaken by the Manager without any cost to the competitor, and while every possible care will be taken of the exhibits, he will not accept any responsibility for loss or damage from any cause. In all cases the Rubber must be delivered free to the Exhibition Building, and at the close must be removed within three days by the Exhibitor or his representative.
- 4.—The Rubber will be given a manufacturer's vulcanisation test, and by entering, each competitor agrees that at least seven pounds may be cut from each sample for the purpose of handing samples to the judges—(a) manufacturers and (b) chemists. (Colour test will not be taken into consideration.) It must be expressly understood by entrants that the decision of the Judges is final and without appeal, but should it subsequently be found that the winner has contravened any of these Rules, the award will be annulled in favour of the owner of the next best sample.
- 5.—Exhibits must reach the Exhibition Building by the 15th June, 1914, but if more convenient to competitors, they may be forwarded so that they arrive any time after the 5th June, and there will be no objection to Rubber for competition being branded, as all brands will be removed from samples sent to the Judges, and a number different from that appearing in the Catalogue, will be attached.
- 6.—Entries must be made to the Awards Committee, International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition, Limited, at the Registered Office, 75, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., by Friday night, 1st May, 1914, but letters bearing postmark of 1st May will be accepted and entered as if they had been delivered by that date. All entries should be sent by registered post.
- 7.—The trophies will become the absolute property of the successful exhibitors.
- 8.—Each exhibit will be made known by a number only; a corresponding number will appear in the Catalogue, and full name and address of competitor.
- 9.—The Exhibition opens on the 24th June and closes on the 9th July, 1914.

*Entries should be made on foolscap paper in the following form and be very legibly written:—*

I/We wish to enter the Competition for the DIAMOND JUBILEE TROPHY, for the best sample of Plantation Rubber, and hereby agree to conform to the Rules of the Competi-

tion, which I/We have read. The exhibit weighs.....lbs.,  
and has been prepared upon the Plantation from Latex  
taken from.....trees grown on.....

(state variety)

(state plantation)

solely by me/us (*i.e.*, those employed on this Plantation.)

(and country)

Signed .....

Full Address... ..

.....

.....

NOTE.—Entries close on Friday Night, 1st May, 1914.  
(See Rule 6.)

A. STAINES MANDERS,

Organizing Manager,  
International Rubber and Allied Trades Exhibition,  
75, Chancery Lane (Holborn), London W.C.,

No Competitor may make more than three entries.

The above Entry Form must be signed for each sample;  
if three samples are submitted, they must be marked  
Sample 1, Sample 2, Sample 3.

NOTE.—The Exhibition opens at the Royal Agricultural Hall,  
on the 24th June, and closes on the 9th July, 1914.

## THE COMMITTEE OF THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

(INCORPORATED),

HAVE DECIDED TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING

## TROPHIES

FOR COMPETITION AT THE

International Rubber Exhibition,

To be held in London from 24th June to 9th July, 1914.

**Competition 1.—The Rubber Growers' Association  
Medals** for the best commercial samples of Plantation  
Rubber exhibited in the following classes:—

Class 1.—CREPE.

Class 2.—SMOKED SHEET.

Class 3.—ASSORTED INVOICE, EMBRACING No. 1  
RUBBER AND SCRAP GRADES.

NOTE.—Samples entered for competition to be wharf-  
drawn in each case, of not less than 10 lbs. weight, repre-  
sentative of a break or invoice of not less than 50 cases of  
rubber, and such samples must be certified by the Wharf-  
ingers as having been drawn within three months of the  
opening of the Exhibition. The Awards to be given on the  
judgment of the Standard Qualities Committee of the  
Rubber Trade Association of London.

### CONDITIONS.

1.—The competition is open without entrance fee to anyone  
engaged in any part of the world in the growth of rubber upon  
plantations, and entries may be made either by the owners of  
any such plantation, whether individuals of companies, or by  
the executive superintendent or manager.

2.—Competitors may send in entries for each class, but  
must forward a separate copy of entry for each exhibit and  
companies owning several estates may send entries from  
each estate.

3.—The judges are to have the right to cut or otherwise  
treat or test each and every exhibit sent for competition;  
exhibits will be returned to the owners or their representatives  
at the close of the exhibition.

Entries must be made to—

THE AWARDS COMMITTEE,  
C/o A. Staines Manders,  
Exhibition Offices,  
75, Chancery Lane (Holborn),  
London, W. C.

by Friday night, the first May, 1914, but letters bearing  
the post-mark of the 1st May, will be accepted and entered  
as if they had been delivered by that date. All entries  
should be sent by registered post.

### Competition 2.—A Gold Medal

for the best exhibit connected with PLANTATION  
RUBBER grown in the Middle East, to be awarded by  
Judges to be appointed by the Rubber Growers' Associa-  
tion, London.

No entry will be necessary for this Competition:  
the Judges will make their award from rubber exhibited  
by countries of the Middle East.

### Competition 3.—A Prize of £50 and a Gold Medal

for what is adjudged to be the most valuable improvement  
connected with the collection or preparation of plantation  
rubber (open only to managers or Assistants on Estates),  
such improvement to have been introduced between the  
1st July, 1913, and 31st March, 1914, at which latter date  
all entries must have been lodged with

THE SECRETARY OF THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION,  
C/o The London Chamber of Commerce,

1, Oxford Court, Cannon Street,  
London, E.C.

### CONDITIONS.

All models, diagrams and general particulars must accom-  
pany each entry, and all descriptions must be legibly written  
or typed on one side of the paper only.

After judging has been completed the exhibits will be  
displayed in the Competition Section of the exhibition free of  
expense to the Competitors.

### Competition 4.—Manufacturers' Section.

#### Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals

to be given for the three best exhibits of rubber flooring  
in tile or sheet form; open to Manufacturers of any  
country.

### Competition 5.—A Gold Medal

to be given for the exhibit composed of the greatest variety  
of articles made from rubber for commercial purposes;  
open to Manufacturers of any country.

The Exhibition will provide, for Exhibitors in the  
Manufacturers' Section, a separate space should they wish  
to enter for the above competition; floor space will be  
supplied for the special display of flooring; or the award  
may be made from the general exhibit.

Exhibitors who decide to compete must make an  
entry in the usual way.

Entries will close for Competitions 4 and 5 on the 1st June, 1914, with

THE AWARDS COMMITTEE,  
C/o A. Staines Manders,  
Exhibition Offices,  
75, Chancery Lane (Holborn),  
London, W.C.

**Competition 6.—A Prize of £50 and a Gold Medal** for the discovery and application of such new use for plantation rubber as may be adjudged the most valuable; special consideration being given to the weight of the rubber which such application is likely to consume.

#### CONDITIONS.

Entries will close on the 1st June, 1914, with  
THE SECRETARY OF THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION,  
C/o The London Chamber of Commerce,  
1, Oxford Court, Cannon Street,  
London, E.C.

Full descriptions of the suggestions, necessary explanatory notes and samples, diagrams and designs may, at the option of the Competitor accompany the description, or descriptive essays, which must be clearly and legibly written or typed on one side of the paper only.

The Judges will be appointed by Rubber Growers' Association, London, and the winning essay will be read, and description of the suggestions shown, at the International Rubber Conference, and will be published in the official reports of the proceedings of the Exhibition.

The Judges' decision shall be final, and no appeal will be recognised. Entries in each and every Competition are only accepted on this distinct understanding.

All exhibits of rubber must be delivered to Mr. A. Staines Manders, or his authorised Representative in the Competition Section of the Exhibition, Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N., not later than 15th June, 1914.

The outside of the case must be clearly marked with the name of Competition and Exhibitor, and Class.

While the Directors of the Exhibition will take every care to protect the exhibits, they will not be responsible for loss or damage from any cause.

Entries may be made in writing in the following form:—

I/We desire to enter the RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION COMPETITION.

Class/es No.....

(Fill in numbers.)

and agree to abide by the published conditions.

Name of Company, Firm or Individual.....

Signature.....

Full address.....

Date.....

NOTE.—For crude rubber entries the name of the Estate must be stated.

## The 1914 Rubber Exhibition (LONDON.)

### THE "RUBBER WORLD" TROPHIES.

#### A SILVER CUP, VALUE £20

suitably inscribed with the Winner's name, will be awarded by the RUBBER WORLD for the Essay judged to be the most practical, useful, and comprehensive on the subject:

#### WHAT IS AN IDEAL RUBBER ESTATE?

The Idea of the Competition is not Literary, but Practical.

The Competition is open to all Planters, Estate Managers and their assistants, in all countries.

Each Essay should indicate the writer's view of the best method of planting and developing an Estate; of tapping and coagulating, and preparing the rubber for market; the best sort of machinery and general equipment for the factory; the best general accommodation for workers on an Estate, and the best method of managing labour.

#### A SECOND TROPHY.

A SILVER SALVER, also suitably inscribed, will be given for the second best Essay.

MR. NOEL TROTTER (President of the Rubber Growers' Association), MR. CYRIL BAXENDALE, MR. C. MALCOLM CUMMING, MR. WILLIAM FORSYTHE, and MR. JOSEPH FRASER have kindly agreed to form the Committee of Judges.

#### CONDITIONS.

(1) The Competitor must be a planter or an assistant, or have been connected in a planting capacity with an Estate.

(2) Essays should not be less than 1,500, nor more than 2,000 words in length, and must be legibly written on one side of the paper only.

(3) Each Essay must bear a distinctive *nom-de-plume* and the name of the writer, together with the *nom-de-plume*, must accompany the manuscript on a separate slip.

(4) The winning Essays will be the property of the RUBBER WORLD, which will have the right to publish either or both.

(5) The RUBBER WORLD reserves the right to publish any of the Essays which may be specially commended.

(6) Essays must reach the office of the RUBBER WORLD, 10 King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., not later than May 1, 1914.

The winning Essay will be read at the Conference, to be held during the International Rubber Exhibition.

### "INDIA-RUBBER JOURNAL" ESTATE PHOTO-GRAPH COMPETITION.

#### CASH TWENTY FIVE POUNDS.

The proprietors of the INDIA-RUBBER JOURNAL have pleasure in offering a prize of twenty-five pounds sterling for the best collection of photographs illustrating all departments of rubber estate work, from seed collection to shipping of rubber. The Exhibition Management will present an engraved certificate, which will be an endorsement of the award.

#### RULES.

1. Not more than twenty photographs to be submitted by each competitor.

2. The photographs may be sent mounted or unmounted, and be of any size, and taken in any country. The exhibitor must number each illustration, and send in a written statement describing each photograph according to number.

3. The proprietors of the INDIA-RUBBER JOURNAL have the right of reproducing the winning set and any others should they desire to do so.

4. The decision of the judges appointed by the Rubber Exhibition Competition Committee to be final and without appeal, and if they think fit, the amount may be divided into two or more prizes if photographs are in their opinion of equal merit.

5. The donors accept no responsibility for lost exhibits or their return, but will endeavour to return to each competitor the illustrations sent if same are properly addressed by the competitor.

6. Entries must be sent to the Exhibition Awards Committee, c/o Mr. A. Staines Manders, Exhibition Offices, 75, Chancery Lane, London, E.C., by Tuesday, 12th May, 1914. On receipt, each set of photographs will be lettered, and will be exhibited at the Exhibition under such letters. The name and address of the competitor must be written on a separate card or sheet of paper, and enclosed with the photographs, which should not bear any distinguishing mark.



#### LAST FRIDAY'S COMMITTEE MEETING.

##### VOLUNTEERING FINANCES.

##### Important Resolutions Relating to Pests.

##### THE LABOUR FEDERATION.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 12th September, 1913, at 11-30 a.m.

*Present*.—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon), the Hon. Mr. William Sinclair, Messrs. H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dikoya P. A.), R. Huyshe Eliot (Dikoya P. A.), N. J. Wilson Blackett (Chairman, Ramboda P. A.), H. M. Picken (Pussellawa P. A.), C. W. Newton (Ramboda P. A.), J. Lochore (Colombo), R. H. Villiers (Hon. Secretary, Kelani Valley P. A.), Geo. Kent Deaker (Passara P. A.), Neil G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya Districts P. A.), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P. A.), T. G. Elliott (Chairman, Badulla P. A.), W. G. B. Dickson (Badulla P. A.), J. S. Patterson (Kandy), William Gibson (Haputale P. A.), C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary, Maskeliya P. A.), H. L. Egan (visitor), Martin M. Smith (Kandy), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary, Matale P. A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P. A.), J. G. Napier (K. K. & Panwila P. A.), M. L. Wilkins (Chairman, Ambegamuwa P. A.), T. Y. Wright (Chairman, K. K. & Panwila P. A.), H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary, K. K. & Panwila P. A.), A. Lee Simpson (Kandy Districts P. A.), F. E. Hendersen, (Hon. Secretary, Kandy Districts P. A.), W. H. Murray (Pussellawa P. A.), C. C. Du Pre Moore (Chairman, Kandy Districts P. A.), J. Henry Marcel (Ramboda P. A.), H. D. Bartlett (visitor), A. J. Austin Dickson (Chairman, Kotmale P. A.), P. R. Shand (Kandy),

Campbell Dudley (Hewaheta P. A.), J. W. Hyde (Chairman, Haputale P. A.), Count de Mauny (visitor), Messrs. Henry A. Beachcroft (Kandy), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P. A.), Hodgson Bell (Matale P. A.), Tom Hyatt (Chairman, Kelani Valley P. A.), A. M. Car, michael (Kelani Valley P. A.), M. H. Reeves (Chairman, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), E. G. Box (Hon-Secretary, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), A. J. Stephens (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), H. Gordon Griffin (Hon. Secretary, Dikoya P. A.), L. C. Maudslay (Dikoya P. A.), Huntley Wilkinson (Hon. Secretary, Dimbula P. A.), A. Hamilton Harding (Chairman, Dimbula P. A.), J. Hall Brown (Chairman, Rangalla P. A.), Wyndham F. Baker (Chairman, Urugalla P. A.), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P. A.), Thos. Smith (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), J. Anderson (Matale P. A.), F. M. Mackwood (Colombo), C. B. Clay (Rangala P. A.), G. H. Colledge (Chairman, Kalutara P. A.), Churton H. Walker (visitor), W. H. Biddulph (Chairman, Udapussellawa P. A.), R. G. Coombe (Haputale P. A.), Herbert Inglis (Kalutara P. A.), Edgar Turner (Colombo), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), Hew Kennedy (Chairman, Maskeliya P. A.), Gordon Pyper (Kandy), C. D. Hunt (visitor), M. V. Clapham (visitor) and John Still (Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon).—62 members and 6 visitors.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy on Friday, the 11th July, 1913, were submitted for confirmation. Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

##### MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Read letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. W. Coombe, P. G. Wood, G. H. Masefield, L. Moir, A. Glennie, J. B. Sidgwick, A. C. Wilson and Rodney Mylius.

##### DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Mr. A. M. CARMICHAEL spoke regarding the delay in building the Kitulgala Hospital. It was the opinion of the meeting that the construction could and should be carried on much more rapidly.

The following letter from the Maskeliya Planters' Association was read, and Mr. Hew Kennedy gave the meeting some interesting facts on the subject of the present loss on rice. The subject being of very great importance and extremely intricate it was resolved "that a sub-Committee be appointed to study the whole question of coolies' food supplies and that the Chamber of Commerce be invited to nominate two members to confer with the following planting representatives, viz: Messrs. W. Westland, M. L. Wilkins, Hew Kennedy, the Chairman, and the Secretary, P. A."

Maskeliya Planters' Association,  
Maha Nilu estate, Norwood,  
August 30th, 1913.

##### THE SECRETARY Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

At a general meeting of above Association held on August 27th the following resolution was passed:—

RESOLUTION:—"That owing to the heavy losses sustained by estates consequent on the high prices of rice ruling at

present concentrated action of some kind is a matter for immediate consideration."

Resolved:—"That copies of this resolution be sent to all District Associations and that the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up."

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) C. B. PRETTEJOHN,  
Hon. Secretary, M. P. A.

#### ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR-ELECT.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member, the Chairman and the Secretary do form a sub-Committee to draft an address of welcome to Sir Robert Chalmers, Governor-elect of Ceylon, and that they be empowered to spend Rs 150 on preparing the same."

#### CEYLON VOLUNTEERS.

Mr. R. G. Coombe reported the progress made so far by the sub-Committee appointed at the last general Committee meeting, and the following correspondence was laid on the table:—

COLONEL R. B. FELL,  
Commandant, C. V. Force.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward for your information a copy of resolutions passed at a meeting of a sub-Committee appointed by the Planters' Association of Ceylon held at Diyatalawa on the 20th instant.

2. Your sanction to call the conference referred to is requested.

3. I attach letter from the Secretary of Planters' Association of Ceylon appointing my Committee.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) R. G. COOMBE,  
Hon. Secretary, of sub Committee.

#### (Resolutions referred to.)

1. "That the Officers Commanding the Volunteer units be invited to a conference to consider the following resolution:—"That in the best interests of the Ceylon Volunteer Force H. E. the Acting Governor be asked to consider the question of appointing an Advisory Committee to deal with Volunteer finance matters brought before him by the Commandant."

2. "That this resolution be forwarded to the Commandant, C.V.F., for the courtesy of his consideration and sanction."

Head Quarters, C.V.F.,  
August 18th, 1913.

From the COMMANDANT, C.V.F.,  
To R. G. COOMBE, Esq.,  
Hon. Secretary, P.A.

SIR,

I enclose for your information the answer to your Resolution forwarded to me at Diyatalawa Camp.

Will you please inform me what date would be suitable for such a conference to discuss the resolution, and would you state the definite recommendations which your sub-Committee desire to be discussed and laid before the Government.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) R. B. FELL,  
Colonel, Commandant,

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, 16th August, 1913.

The COMMANDANT,  
Ceylon Volunteer Force.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 251 of the 1st instant I am directed to state that it is understood that the sub-Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon desires that you should summon a conference of all the Officer Commanding Volunteer units to consider:—

(a) whether they are in favour of the establishment of an Advisory Committee such as suggested; and  
(b) what should be its constitution.

2. His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government will have no objection to your summoning such a conference and discussing the proposal. If the conference approves the establishment of an Advisory Committee, you should submit definite recommendations for the consideration of Government.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,  
for Colonial Secretary.

#### EXPORT DUTIES.

Read the following letter from the Principal Collector of Customs:—

H. M Customs,  
Colombo, 27th August, 1913.

#### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

SIR,

I have the honour to draw your attention to Government notification dated August 13th, 1913 (copy enclosed), published in the Government "Gazette" of August 15th, 1913, on page 689, regarding the abolition from and after January 1st, 1914, of the present export duties on coffee and cinchona and imposing a certain rate of duties on cocoa, tea, rubber and cardamoms.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed)—for Principal Collector.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, August 13th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

It is hereby notified for general information that at the next ordinary meeting of the Legislative Council the Hon. the Colonial Secretary will move the following resolutions:—

(a) That from and after January 1st, 1914, the present export duties of 10 cents per cwt. on coffee and 5 cents per cwt. on cinchona, levied under Section 4 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1882, be abolished; and

(b) That from the same date the following duties on the exportation of cocoa, tea, rubber and cardamoms be imposed under the provisions of Section 28 of "The Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912":—

Cocoa, 15 cents per 100 lbs.; rubber, 75 cents per 100 lbs.; tea, 15 cents per 100 lbs.; cardamoms, 75 cents per 100 lbs.

By His Excellency's command.

(Signed) L. W. BOOTH,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Mr. LOCHORE stated that the Chamber of Commerce was in correspondence with Government on the subject.

## PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.

Read the following letter from the Provincial Road Committee, and resolved:—"That the resolution therein embodied be endorsed by this Committee and commended to the notice of planters."

## BLIND CORNERS ON MAIN ROADS.

Provincial Road Committee,  
Kandy, 18th August, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

SIR,

I am directed by the Provincial Road Committee, Central Province, to forward for your information copy of a Resolution passed by the Committee, at a meeting held on 9th instant, and to request the favour of the co-operation of your Association in this matter.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) C. H. COLLINS,  
Secretary.

(Resolution referred to.)

Read letter of 6th August from Mr. Wallace R. Westland re blind corners on main roads.

Resolved:—"That this Committee is of opinion that inside corners which are made dangerous by reason of growth of vegetation should be cleared by the owners of the land, who should be asked to clear the lower branches of trees, and otherwise improve the view round the corners."

2. The Committee is also of opinion that at outside corners on estates, the superintendents might be encouraged to make arrangements with the District Engineer to carry out the work on payment after measurement of the work done.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Director of Public Works, and to all the Planters' Associations.

## ALEXANDER WARDROP MEMORIAL.

The Secretary informed the meeting that the Memorial Clock had arrived and was now being erected by Messrs. Walker, Sons & Co. There is a balance still required and anyone who has not yet subscribed to this is now invited to do so.

A very hearty vote of thanks to Sir Stanley Bois was passed for all his help and for the great interest he had shown in this matter.

It was resolved:—"That the Kandy Municipality be asked if they will supply the electric light required for the clock free of charge."

"TIMES OF CEYLON."

Read a letter from the *Times of Ceylon* regarding a certain undesirable form of advertisement and resolved:—"That the Secretary do write and thank the *Times of Ceylon* for their courtesy and do request them to be so good as to exercise their best discretion in this matter."

## THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION YEAR BOOK.

The year book for 1912 was laid on the table. Resolved:—"That tenders be invited for the printing of the year-book in future and that a penalty clause be introduced against delay."

## INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION.

Mr. Lochore informed the meeting that the Chamber of Commerce was in correspondence with Malaya re this exhibition. Resolved:—"That the Planters' Association do offer a prize of the value of £50, leaving the details of the competition to be arranged by the local Exhibition Committee."

A plan showing the space reserved for Ceylon exhibits was passed round the table.

## THE CEYLON BUREAU.

Read the following letter from the Director of the Ceylon Bureau and resolved:—"That this Committee approves of the same."

The Secretary was directed to forward a copy to the Chamber of Commerce.

The Ceylon Bureau,  
New Zealand Insurance Buildings,  
Pitt Street, Sydney, N. S. W.,  
August 14th, 1913.

To F. H. LAYARD Esq., J. P.,  
Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

Ten years ago last month the Committee of your Association passed a resolution approving of the agitation then on foot to secure excursion rates for Australians desirous of spending a holiday in Ceylon and in addition placed on record a recognition of the fact that the larger number of holiday-seekers visiting the Colony was to the benefit of the Island.

Conditions now are such that the necessity is marked for securing a large Australian tourist clientele. The remarkable developments in the Cape and North American routes have diverted many passengers who previously passed through Ceylon. The efforts of the Java and Honolulu authorities have been immensely successful in securing a large and growing proportion of Australian holiday-seekers. The Federated Malay States have entered into the field of Australian tourist competition. If Ceylon is to derive that traffic which could be hers, the work of the Ceylon Bureau will have to be extended. This is only possible by a greater measure of support and recognition from Ceylon.

Perhaps your Association may express some opinion on this matter.

Yours Sincerely,  
(Signed) F. J. WAYMAN,  
Director.

## CEYLON DUTY ON FOREIGN TEA.

Read the following letters:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy, 17th/21st July, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
Colombo.

SIR,

In further reply to your letter No. /9157, dated the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the matter was considered at a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon held on the 11th, and the following resolution passed:—

"That this Committee emphatically oppose both the proposal to provide warehouses for the purpose of blending teas and the proposal to remit the duty on foreign teas imported into Colombo, and that the Secretary do write to Government in these terms, sending a copy of his letter to the Chamber of Commerce."



It was the unanimous opinion of my Committee that by admitting foreign teas to be blended in Colombo, Ceylon would jeopardise the good name of "Pure Ceylon Tea" which has been built up at so great an expenditure of time, trouble and money.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
P. A. of Ceylon.

#### WAREHOUSES FOR TEA BLENDING PURPOSES.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce,  
Colombo, 30th July, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, with a copy of letter addressed by your Association to the Colonial Secretary on the above subject.

My Committee fully endorse the views expressed to Government by your Association.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) O. MACDERMOTT,  
Acting Secretary.

#### THE MAHAILLUPPALAMA EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

Read the following correspondence:—

Kandy, 16th July, 1913.

THE HON'BLE  
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that it was stated at a Planters' Association General Committee meeting held on the 11th instant that the Government had under consideration the sale of the Experimental Garden at Mahailuppalam.

As my Committee is of opinion that it would be a great pity to sell this land before the proposed new experimental station in the east of Anuradhapura has so far advanced as to have coconuts, and other long-lived products in bearing, I am directed to inquire if this fear is well grounded.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
P. A. of Kandy.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, 21st August, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 16th July, regarding the experiment Station at Mahailuppalam, I am directed to state that it is understood Mr. Lyne has explained personally what the Government's intention is as regards the future of the station. There will be no attempt to dispose of it unless a suitable offer is forthcoming from a strong syndicate actuated by other than merely speculative designs.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,  
for Colonial Secretary.

#### EXCISE ORDINANCE.

The names of the gentlemen selected to represent planting interests on the Advisory Committees were submitted to the meeting and their appointment approved.

- |                               |     |                  |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------------|
| 1. Kandy (Revenue) district   | ... | Mr. T. Y. Wright |
| 2. Kegalle P. A.              | ... | " Jackson Smale  |
| 3. N'Ellya (Revenue) district | ... | " A. H. Harding  |
| 4. Badulla P. A.              | ... | " T. G. Elliott  |
| 5. Kalutara P. A.             | ... | " Herbert Inglis |
| 6. Sabaragamuwa P. A.         | ... | " Geo. Brown     |

#### PLANT PESTS.

A long discussion on this point took place, and it was resolved:—"That this Committee supports the suggestion of the Director of Agriculture that compulsory proclaiming of Plant Pests on individual estates is desirable in the interests of the planting industry."

It was resolved that the Hon. the Rural Member should be asked to confer with the Attorney-General and the Director of Agriculture with a view to obtaining amendment of the Ordinance, so that an area which is free from Shot-hole borer shall be able to prevent the introduction of plants or parts of plants, excepting tea seed and leaf.

It was pointed out that at present nothing can be done to protect an area until that area is affected.

Further it was resolved:—"That this Committee supports the resolution forwarded by the Director of Agriculture to the effect that Government's attention should be invited to the importance of appointing an entomologist thoroughly to study the life history of the Shot-hole borer."

From the experiences given by several members it is clear that this Pest is steadily increasing.

#### PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

The following resolution, passed at the last meeting of the Proprietors' Labour Federation Committee, was read:—Resolved: "That a sum of Rs. 15,000 be offered to the Planters' Association to be devoted to the promotion of Coast recruiting for the benefit of members of the Proprietors' Labour Federation by providing an Assistant Commissioner of the Coast Agency to supervise recruiting in such an area as the Labour Commissioner considers that he can control."

The CHAIRMAN intimated that this had been discussed in the morning at the Coast Agency Committee meeting when the following resolution was passed, viz.: "That this Committee, while cordially thanking the P.L.F. for the offer of Rs. 15,000 made for assisting recruiting, is of opinion that consideration of this offer should be postponed until the estimates of the Ceylon Labour Commissioner for 1914 have been received."

This view was accepted and a long discussion followed, and the resolution given below was then passed *nem con*, fifty-five members voting in its favour, viz.: Resolved:—"That this Committee approves of the principle of the Proprietors' Labour Federation and offer its cordial support."

#### ORDINANCE No. 9 OF 1909.

Messrs. G. C. Bliss, T. Y. Wright and the Hon. Mr. Wm. Sinclair were appointed a sub-Committee to discuss certain proposed alternations in this Ordinance, and it was resolved to ask Messrs. F. Liesching and VanLangenberg to join and confer with them.

#### CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

##### KELANI VALLEY EXTENSION.

Mr. HYATT spoke on this subject. The correspondence, which was laid on the table, will be published to-morrow.

#### PLANTING GAZETTE.

It was resolved to register this publication as a newspaper.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon,

## KELANI VALLEY RAILWAY EXTENSION.

## ESTIMATES OF TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

## CASE FOR THE BULATHKOHUPITIYA BRANCH.

The following correspondence was placed before the P. A. Committee at Kandy last Friday.

K. V. Planters' Association,  
Waharaka, Undugoda,  
May 31st, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,

At a Committee meeting of this Association held at Taldua on July 5th, it was directed to forward a copy of the report on the proposed extension of the K. V. Railway to Bulathkohupitiya and to request you to put the matter on the Agenda at the next meeting of the Committee of the Ceylon Planters' Association, with the request for the support of the Parent Association on behalf of the proposal.

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,

R. H. VILLIERS,  
Hon. Secretary.

## COPY OF REPORT AND LETTER REFERRED TO.

Kelani Valley Planters' Association,  
Waharaka, Undugoda,  
July 15th, 1913.

THE ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT AGENT,  
Kegalle.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that at a meeting of this Association held at Taldua on April 5th, 1913, a sub-Committee was formed to collect figures and statistics with a view to requesting Government to extend the Kelani Valley Railway to Bulathkohupitiya.

2. This sub-Committee having presented their report I am directed to forward you a copy of same and to request you to forward it, with an application for a survey to be taken in hand at an early date with, my Association trust, your approval and support attached.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,

R. H. VILLIERS,  
Hon. Secretary

## SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Report of the sub-Committee appointed by the Kelani Valley Planters' Association to collect figures and statistics in support of a proposal to extend the Kelani Valley Railway to Bulathkohupitiya. Members:—Messrs. Cantlay, Edwards, Collison, H. W. Boyagoda, R.M., J. R. Meedeniya Dissawe, and R. H. Villiers (Chairman.)

Your sub-Committee have pleasure in presenting their report on the above proposal, showing the method and procedure followed in collecting figures and statistics.

2. After consideration at the first meeting held by your sub-Committee, it was decided to drop the suggestion of carrying a branch line up the Pindeni Oya Valley to Arandara but to advocate a direct extension to Bulathkohupitiya via Ruanwella and Panalla, a distance of ten miles, from a point near Karawanelle Station.

3. To collect estate figures forms were sent out to all estates concerned, with a request that estimates of up and down tonnage for the years 1915 to 1918 inclusive might be returned.

vi.

4. For village figures, all aratchies and headmen were called to meet the Dissawa Meedeniya and the Ratamahatmeya, and figures were carefully and systematically drawn up and finally checked by your Committee.

5. For mine figures, the mine owners and managers were interviewed and their figures are included in the report.

6. To check estate returns, it was thought best that standard yields and rates should be agreed upon and the total tonnage of all returns compared with those standard figures.

7 The figures for various items agreed upon are as follows:—

(a) TEA: Tea alone 500 lbs. per acre per annum over the whole area considered to appreciably affect the yield of tea until after its sixth year, but for every further year in age of the rubber so interplanted the yield of tea has been reduced in the estimates by 100 lbs. per acre per annum until extinction.

(b) RUBBER: Rubber alone. The following rates of yield per acre per annum at various ages were considered a fair, if conservative, estimate: 6—7 years 200 lbs. per acre, 8—9 years 300 lbs. per acre, 10—11 years 350 lbs. per acre, 12 and upwards 500 lbs. per acre.

Rubber in Tea:—This has been taken as two years behind rubber alone in point of growth and yield. For total acreages and yields of each product see table 1.

(c) MANURE:—Bi-annual manuring having become general throughout the district and increasing yearly at from 750 to 1,000 lbs. per acre, a general bi-annual average of one ton to 2½ acres or an annual average of one ton to five acres has been taken as a standard rate.

(d) RICE:—Estate population being taken from returns, 9 bushels per cooly, 37 bushels per ton or 4 coolies per ton per annum have been allowed.

(e) SUNDRIES:—Including other food stuffs and caddy goods have been taken at 1 cwt. per head per annum.

(f) PACKING MATERIALS:—20 per cent. on rubber and 25 per cent. on tea is allowed up and down.

(g) LIQUID FUEL:—On estates using this the following figures would seem to be about correct:—100 gallons per one ton of rubber, 75 gallons per one ton of tea, 1 gallon weighing 10 lbs. 40 gallons per barrel, one barrel weighing 80 lbs.

(h) BUILDINGS AND MACHINERY:—Figures for these have been taken direct from returns and checked by recognised weights of bungalow and factory materials.

(i) OTHER GOODS:—These include (up) horse and cattle food, beef boxes, groceries, liquor, factory sundries, such as oil, paint, belting, etc. (down returned empties).

(j) VILLAGE FIGURES:—These could only be checked by the last (1911) census figures of the population and the results are considered conservative, 10 bushel of rice per head per annum less 20 per cent. for infants and 1 cwt. per head per annum for sundries, such as oil, salt, fish, cloth, umbrellas and caddy goods generally have been estimated.

(k) PLUMBAGO:—This is at present carried by river from Ruanwella, but in the event of the extension being carried through to Panalla and Bulathkohupitiya will be transported by rail and credit is taken to the extension for receipts accruing to the main line on transport of this product.

(l) FUTURE EXTENSIONS IN RUBBER AND TEA:—Estate returns show some 1,700 acres to be opened now or in the near future and, in proportion, the same tonnage and receipts per acre as on the present acreage is allowed for those extensions, viz., 1 ton per acre roughly.

(m) COACHING:—The figures for the Kelani Valley Railway show earnings in 1911–12 of Rs. 8,487.97 per mile and on the Ratnapura line of Rs. 5,024.39 per mile. While allowing that a certain proportion of the Kelani Valley Railway traffic is diverted at Avisawella for Ratnapura it must be remembered that the extension would run into and through a very much more densely populated district, the 1911 census showing a population in Kegalle district of 375 per square mile against 133 per square mile, in the case of Ratnapura, and, moreover, it is recognised that a railway tends to produce and develop this traffic. We think it safe, therefore, to estimate earnings from this source at Rs. 6,500 per mile of extension.

## 8. Connecting or approach roads.

(a) A new road is suggested from about the 10th mile on the Pindeniya road to about the 45th on the Bulathkohupitiya road to serve estates about Arandara and, especially, the big plumbago mines, situated in this quarter, which would use Panalla station. The plumbago tonnage makes up a considerable proportion of the total tonnage, and this road would be a great convenience to these mines. The trace of new roads cut by the Nagolle company is recommended.

(b) At the same time the present Pindeniya road must be kept up as an approach road to Ruanwella station for those estates situated on or near the lower end of this road.

9. We now proceed to give in the following tables an analytical summary of the figures ascertained, which figures may, we think, be taken as reasonably accurate though strictly conservative. In the case of estate traffic figures are given for the years 1915 and 1918 only as the figures for the intermediate years differed but little, showing, however, a small though steady annual increase. In the case of village and mine figures present (1913) figures are shown in 1915, but 10 per cent increase has been allowed in 1918 for increased population:—

		Ruanwella 2 miles.		Total 10 miles.	
		Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
		R. c.		R. c.	
*Tea	277	69.24	1,698	1,666.58	
*Rubber	433	147.33	1,730	2,116.30	
*Manure	692	110.72	3,304	1,934.64	
Rice	865	204.10	3,501	4,341.80	
Sundries	173	58.82	702	870.40	
Packing	156	24.96	770	465.52	
*Liq. fuel	90	14.40	1,074	727.44	
Machinery	65	22.30	437	616.76	
Empties	15	3.74	180	101.14	
Other goods	28	9.52	222	320.45	
Total...	2,794	754.82	13,618	13,251.23	

## ESTATE STATISTICS.

TABLE 1A. ACREAGES AND YIELDS 1913.

Acreeage in tea alone	3,342 acres.
Acreeage in tea under rubber	4,044 "
Total tea crop estimated	2,853,760 lbs. or 386 lbs. per acre.
Acreeage in rubber alone	7,525 acres.
Acreeage in rubber in tea	4,044 "
Total rubber crop estimated	3,100,160 lbs. or 267 lbs. per acre.
Estate population	14,004
Nett cultivated acreage	14,911

TABLE 1B. ACREAGES AND YIELDS 1913.

Acreeage in tea alone	3,342 acres.
Acreeage in tea under rubber	1,623 "
Total tea crop estimated	2,416,960 lbs. or 485 lbs. per acre.
Acreeage in rubber only	10,155
Acreeage in rubber in tea	1,623
Total rubber crop estimated	4,710,720 lbs. or 400 lbs. per acre.
Estate population	14,848
Nett cultivated acreage	15,120

## TABLE II.—A.

UP AND DOWN ESTATE TONNAGE AND RECEIPTS AT EACH STATION 1915.

				B'pitiya 10 miles.	Panalla 7 miles.				
				Class.	Rate.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
							R. c.		R. c.
•Tea	...	4	12½	944			1,180-00	477	417-34
•Rubber	...	3	17	855			1,419-50	463	549-78
•Manure	...	6	8	1,505			1,204-00	1,107	619-92
Rice	...	3	17	1,786			3,036-20	850	1,011-50
Sundries	...	3	17	357			606-90	172	204-68
Packing	...	6	8	403			322-40	211	118-16
•Liq. fuel	...	6	8	675			540-00	309	173-04
Machinery	...	3	17	298			506-60	74	88-06
Empties	...	4	12½	113			141-20	52	46-20
Other goods	...	3	17	157			266-90	37	44-03
Total...				7,073			9,223-70	3751	3,272-71

TABLE II.—B.

B'pitiya 10 miles. Panalla 7 miles.

				B'pitiya 10 miles.		Panalla 7 miles.	
		Class.	Rate.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
					R. c.		R. c.
*Tea	...	4	12½	800	1,000.00	362	316.75
*Rubber	...	3	17	1,311	1,922.70	788	937.73
*Manure	...	6	8	1,544	1,235.20	1,112	622.72
Rice	...	3	17	1,944	3,304.80	1,120	1,332.80
Sundries	...	3	17	395	671.50	224	366.56
Packing	...	6	8	426	340.80	248	138.88
*Liq. fuel	...	6	8	807	645.60	355	198.80
Machinery	...	3	17	152	258.40	40	47.60
Buildings	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Empties	...	4	12½	134	167.50	60	52.50
Other goods	...	3	17	157	266.90	37	44.03
Total...				7,490	9,813.40	4,346	3,958.36

Ruanwella 2 miles. Total 10 miles.

		Ruanwella 2 miles.		Total 10 miles.	
		Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
				R. c.	R. c.
*Tea	277	69.24	1,439	1,385.99	
*Rubber	709	241.06	2,628	3,101.48	
*Manure	692	110.72	3,348	1,968.64	
Rice	648	220.32	3,712	4,857.92	
Sundries	129	43.86	748	981.92	
Packing	211	33.76	885	513.44	
*Liq. fuel	149	23.84	1,311	868.24	
Machinery	55	18.70	247	524.70	
Buildings	—	—	—	—	
Empties	25	6.24	219	226.24	
Other goods	30	10.20	224	321.13	
Total...	2,925	777.94	14,761	14,549.70	

\*Including packing, tea 25 per cent., rubber 20 per cent., liquid fuel, barrels, manure, bags.

TABLE III.—A.  
VILLAGE AND MINE UP AND DOWN TONNAGE AND  
RECEIPTS 1913.

		B'pitiya.				Panalla.			
		Class.	Rate.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
					R. c.		R. c.		R. c.
Rice	...	3	17	1,000	1,700-00	1,645	1,957-55		
*Sundries	...	3	17	208	353-60	485	577-15		
Arecanuts	...	4	12½	33	41-20	79	69-09		
†Plumbago	...	6	8	860	688-00	3,465	1,940-40		
Machinery	...	3	17	20	34-00	237	282-03		
Empties	...	4	12½	7	8-70	42	36-75		
Coal	...	6	8	—	—	90	50-40		
Other goods	...	3	17	30	51-00	47	35-93		
Total...				2,158	2,876-50	6,090	4,969-30		
		Ruanwella.				Total.			
				Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.		
					R. c.		R. c.		
Rice	...			2,150	733-68	4,795	4,391-23		
*Sundries	...			516	175-44	1,209	1,106-19		
Arecanuts	...			178	44-50	290	154-79		
†Plumbago	...			700	112-60	5,025	2,740-40		
Machinery	...			25	8-50	282	324-50		
Empties	...			10	2-50	59	47-95		
Coal	...			—	—	90	50-46		
Other goods	...			10	3-40	87	110-30		
Total...				3,589	1,080-02	11,837	8,925-82		

TABLE III.—B.  
VILLAGE AND MINE UP AND DOWN TONNAGE AND  
RECEIPTS 1913. (a)

		B'pitiya.				Panalla.			
		Class.	Rate.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
Rice	...	3	17	1,100	1,870-00	1,809	2,152-71		
*Sundries	...	3	17	228	387-60	533	634-27		
Arecanuts	...	4	12½	36	45-00	87	76-09		
†Plumbago	...	6	8	946	758-80	3,811	2,134-16		
Machinery	...	3	17	22	37-40	360	309-40		
Empties	...	4	12½	19	12-50	46	40-25		
Coal	...	6	8	—	—	100	56-00		
Other goods	...	3	17	33	56-10	51	60-69		
Total	...			2,375	3,165-40	6,697	5,463-57		
		Ruanwella.				Total.			
				Tons.	Amt.	Tons.	Amt.		
Rice	...			2,365	804-10	5,274	4,826-81		
*Sundries	...			367	192-78	1,328	1,214-65		
Arecanuts	...			195	48-75	318	160-84		
†Plumbago	...			770	123-20	5,527	3,014-16		
Machinery	...			27	9-18	309	355-98		
Empties	...			11	2-75	67	55-50		
Coal	...			—	—	100	56-00		
Other goods	...			11	3-74	95	124-53		
Total	...			3,946	1,184-50	13,018	9,813-47		

\* Sundries : Food stuffs, salt, fish, oil, etc.

† Including barrels.

‡ Barrel staves, etc.

(a) Calculated at 10 per cent. on 1915.

Village population 10 per cent. on 1915—18,549 (1911 census.)

Village population 10 per cent. on 1918—29,403 (10 per cent. increase.)

TABLE IV.—A.

SUMMARY BY CLASS OF TABLES II. AND III, 1915.

		B'pitiya.		Panalla.	
		Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
			Rs. c.		Rs. c.
CLASS III.					
Rice	...	—	—	—	—
Rubber	...	—	—	—	—
Machinery	...	—	—	—	—
Buildings	...	—	—	—	—
Other goods	...	4,691	7,974 70	4,009	4,770 71
CLASS IV.					
Tea	...	—	—	—	—
Arecanuts	...	—	—	—	—
Empties	...	1,097	1,371 20	650	568 75
CLASS VI.					
Manure	...	—	—	—	—
Plumbago	...	—	—	—	—
Packing (up)	...	—	—	—	—
Liquid fuel	...	—	—	—	—
Coal	...	3,443	2,754 40	5,182	2,901 92
Total	...	9,231	12,100 30	9,841	8,241 38

		Ruanwella.		Total.	
		Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
			Rs. c.		Rs. c.
CLASS III.					
Rice	...	—	—	—	—
Rubber	...	—	—	—	—
Machinery	...	—	—	—	—
Buildings	...	—	—	—	—
Other goods	...	4,265	1,450 10	12,965	14,195 51
CLASS IV.					
Tea	...	—	—	—	—
Arecanuts	...	—	—	—	—
Empties	...	480	120 00	2,227	2,059 95
CLASS VI.					
Manure	...	—	—	—	—
Plumbago	...	—	—	—	—
Packing (up)	...	—	—	—	—
Liquid fuel	...	—	—	—	—
Coal	...	1,638	262 08	19,263	5,918 40
Total	...	6,383	1,832 18	25,155	22,175 86

TABLE IV.—B.

		B'pitiya.		Panalla.	
		Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
			Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Class III					
Class III	...	5,162	8,775 40	4,882	5,785 78
Class IV					
Class IV	...	980	1,225 00	555	485 59
Class VI					
Class VI	...	3,723	2,978 40	5,626	3,150 56
Total	...	9,865	12,978 80	11,043	9,421 93
		Ruanwella.		Total.	
		Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
			Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Class III					
Class III	...	4,541	1,543 94	14,565	16,105 12
Class IV					
Class IV	...	508	127 00	2,043	1,837 59
Class VI					
Class VI	...	1,822	291 52	11,171	6,420 48
Total	...	6,871	1,962 46	27,779	24,363 19

TABLE V.—SUMMARY OF TOTAL TONNAGE AND RECEIPTS FOR 1918.

Tons.	Amount. Rs. cts.
Goods traffic as per table iv. 27,779	24,363 19
Coaching traffic, at Rs. 6,500 per mile ...	65,000 00
Credit to extension on account of plumbago, Carried over main line due to extension 5,527 tons at 8 cents per ton mile— 45 miles ...	89,363 19
Allowed on 1,700 acres to be opened ...	19,097 20
...	1,700 00
Total estimated receipted 1918, ...	110,160 39
or Rs. 11,016 per mile	

10. (a) From an official letter from the Chief Construction Engineer we put the cost of the extension at from Rs. 108 to Rs. 100,000 per mile, and trust, therefore, that these figures will be considered good enough to support our request.

(b) We would, however, again repeat that we consider the above figures fully conservative and, with your approval, propose forwarding same to Government through the usual channels, requesting that a survey may be taken in hand at an early date and trust that the proposal generally will meet the favourable consideration of the authorities.

(c) We further propose that the Parent Association as well as the Dolosbage Planters' Association which is largely concerned in this extension be requested to support the proposal.

(Signed) R. H. VILLIERS,  
For the Committee.

Waharaka, July 15th, 1913.

Minutes of Proceedings of a Meeting of the "Thirty Committee" appointed to administer the proceeds of the export Duty on Tea levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1894 for increasing the consumption of Ceylon Tea in foreign lands, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 12th September, 1913. at 2 p.m.

*Present*:—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman), Hon. Mr. Wm. Sinclair, Messrs. H. G. Eccles, R. Huyshe Eliot, J. Lochore, William Gibson, W. H. Biddulph, G. C. Bliss, R. G. Coombe, J. S. Patterson and John Still (Secretary). 11 members.

The Notice calling the Meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a Meeting of the "Thirty Committee," held at Kandy on Saturday, the 10th May, 1913, were submitted for confirmation. Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

ADVERTISING CEYLON TEA IN EUROPE:—Read letters from Messrs. Staines Manders and J. H. Renton.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
"Thirty Committee."



#### NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above was held at the Hill Club on Saturday, at 1-30 p.m., preceded by a Committee meeting. Mr. E. C. Elliott (Chairman) presided. *Present*:—Messrs. E. H. Mellor, H. M. Drummond Hay, B. A. Wallis Wilson, W. R. Matthew, Rayner Smith, C. B. Nelson, C. L. Tivy, S. T. Greig, H. J. Temple, and R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary.)

The following members were announced:—Count De Luppe (Downside), Messrs. C. B. Nelson (Welimada), Kenneth Gordon (Albion), and Wallis Wilson.

Mr. WALLIS WILSON said the estate he was on was scheduled to Dimbula district and asked if he could join the Association as a private member?

The CHAIRMAN said he could.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY proposed the election of Mr. F. B. B. Goodfellow (Girambe) and Mr. Robert Stewart (Attempitiya).

Mr. C. B. NELSON seconded.—Carried.

#### NUWARA ELIYA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN: There is a letter here from Mr. Spurway tendering his resignation as our hospital visitor owing to his departure to England on furlough. Mr. Spurway, as you are aware, will be returning to Ceylon next December. He has been a very useful member of the Association and has acted as our hospital visitor for many years. I think we can do no better than minute that his letter was read, and acted upon, and have the vacancy open for him to re-enter upon his return to Ceylon. (Hear, hear.)

#### FLY-PROOF ARRANGEMENTS.

The CHAIRMAN: There is here a reply to the letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary in connection with the fly-proof arrangements, as they exist at present, at the General Hospital, Nuwara Eliya. You will remember that at our last meeting we resolved to carry the correspondence between the P. C. M. O. and ourselves to the Colonial Secretary. That was done, and the letter before you to-day is a formal reply to our letter; it is signed by Mr. Arnott on behalf of the Colonial Secretary so far back as June 6th, 1913. I think we might ask the Secretary to call attention to our letter, and ask for something more definite than this formal acknowledgment.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary write to the Colonial Secretary on the lines indicated."

#### SABARAGAMUWA P. A. AND DEPÔT AT COLOMBO FOR OUTGOING COOLIES.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have no doubt read in the newspapers the resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P. A., which is moving to have a depôt at Colombo on the lines adopted at Tuticorin for the protection of coolies going to the Coast. I think it quite a good idea and one which should be supported. I have used the depôt at Tuticorin since its inception and am very pleased with the arrangements there.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: I think it very necessary to protect our coolies from black-mailing in the same manner as we do in India. I do not know whether you gentlemen have noticed in the newspapers the number of prosecutions in the Colombo Courts where the accused have been punished for fleecing. Our coolies need protection in Ceylon as much as they do in India, and it should be the aim of all District Associations to have this depôt established. I am quite in agreement with our Chairman that the resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P. A. is deserving of support.

Mr. B. A. WALLIS WILSON: Mr. Chairman, will you kindly explain what the duties of the officer in charge of the depôt will be?

The CHAIRMAN: Exactly as at Tuticorin. There they have a Superintendent and a number of peons who meet boats, take over coolies who produce tickets, provide them with food and a railway ticket to the station nearest their village. The Cooly is thus protected and has not to plank money for any requirement till he gets to his village. If such a depôt were established in Colombo it will be the duty of the Superintendent to see that the peons meet trains at the Colombo station, take over the coolies producing tickets, provide them with meals, and see them put on the boats for India. Those of us who use the depôt will be debited with the cost of expenses at a given sum per head.

Mr. WALLIS WILSON: This is new.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. It has been in existence for about six months.

Mr. WALLIS WILSON: It has been started since I went home. Will the depôt find the railfare from the railway station nearest our estates to Colombo?

The CHAIRMAN: No, we will have to provide as we are doing now.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: I propose that this Association support the Sabaragamuwa P. A. resolution with regard to the founding of a depôt at Colombo for the protection of estate coolies going to India.

Mr. C. L. TIVY seconded.—Carried.

#### DISTRICT FEDERATION AT UDAPUSSELLAWA.

The SECRETARY read the Udupussellawa P. A. resolution which solicited that the Nuwara Eliya P. A. should join again for another year, the Labour Federation of that district. It also intimated that a similar request was being made to the Maturata P. A., who had joined them in the previous year.

The SECRETARY: I do not know whether there are any rules governing the Udupussellawa Planters' Federation, and from what date we are to bind ourselves for, for another year.

The CHAIRMAN: There are no rules: you only undertake not to take on any coolies from that district without writing and asking the superintendent if he had any objection to your taking them on. You are to have his permission in writing to do so.

Mr. TEMPLE: What if he objects?

The CHAIRMAN: Then you do not take them on. It is quite simple. I have always written and asked the superintendents of those districts before I took on any of their coolies, even before this Federation was entered into. I do that with all neighbours and men I know; it's only when they come from a long distance that I take on coolies without writing to the superintendent. I take it

that the twelve months of such Federation would go back to the date of this letter.

Mr. MATTHEW: Are those the only conditions?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. MATTHEW: Have all the Nuwara Eliya P. A. estates joined it?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, and I am pleased to be able to say that the two estates that stood out, i.e., Scrubs and Warwick Group, have also joined.

Mr. C. L. TIVY: I think the scheme too big. I think Maturata, Udupussellawa and Nurawa Eliya should stand on their own. Those of us in Nuwara Eliya who protect ourselves from kaddi-keepers find that they will finance our coolies if they had one set of boutique-keepers and chetties to deal with. They would not care to do that if they had different sets of kaddi-keepers and chetties to go to when they moved our coolies.

The CHAIRMAN: There is another point to be considered, and that is whether we as a district will not join the Ceylon Labour Federation. That body will either be considerably strengthened after the 15th September or cease to exist altogether. The Committee of that body have made it clear that unless 75 per cent. of the estates in Ceylon joined they would not carry on. This district have pledged themselves up to a point to support the Ceylon Federation well. If we join them then we are in with all districts including Maturata and Udupussellawa, so that the question of Federating with Udupussellawa can be left over to the next meeting, pending developments on September 15th.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: Can districts join after September 15th?

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, yes.

Mr. TEMPLE: What is the percentage of estates supporting the Ceylon Labour Federation at the present time?

The CHAIRMAN: 50 to 52.

Mr. TEMPLE: Can you tell us what estates belonging to this Association will join the Ceylon Labour Federation? It will be helpful to others.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry I am unable to give you the information you ask, as the information given to our Secretary by estates in the district is confidential. Although some estates refused to join some time back, it is not to be believed that they won't do so now. At that time they objected to support what they believed was an ineffective scheme. My own opinion is that on the 15th September the Ceylon Labour Federation Committee will find that they not only have the 75 per cent. of the support they are after, but something like 80 to 82 per cent. of the estates in Ceylon backing them.

Resolved:—"That the Udupussellawa P. A. resolution be left over for consideration at the next meeting."

#### ROADS.

##### PRAISE FOR MR. A. N. ROBERTSON FROM KANDAPOLLA AND RAMBODDE PLANTERS.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, since the agenda of this meeting was sent out a great deal of improvement has been effected on the Kandapolla road, so that there is not much to complain about to-day.

Mr. E. H. MELLOR: The Rambodde Pass has been to my knowledge frequently visited by Mr. Robertson and a great deal has been done there.

Mr. NELSON: The road from Baker's Farm to Welimade is in a most appalling state of repair, also the road from Wilson's Bungalow to Ambewella railway station. I have written officially and privately, but have so far failed to get the repairs taken in hand.

The CHAIRMAN: The District Engineer, Nuwara Eliya, is a new man. He is a hard worker.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: I beg to back Mr. Nelson. The road he mentioned is in a most awful state. It originally was a good road but is now suffering from want of upkeep. I was over a section of it with the superintendent of Attempitiya last week, and he did nothing but complain all the time we were riding on it of the state in which the road was. As I said before the road was originally a good pavement road and unless something was done to it at once it will be entirely ruined. At certain points the paving has been torn from the foundation.

The CHAIRMAN: If I am not mistaken that section is repaired during the North-East monsoon rains.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: That is so.

Mr. C. B. NELSON: When a late start is made and the monsoon over, repairs are never done. They are left over for the next North-East rain.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: That is the root of the trouble.

The CHAIRMAN: Whom do you propose to address on the subject?

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: The Colonial Secretary.

#### TWO YEARS WITHOUT RESOLUTION.

Mr. TEMPLE: Sir, as it is suggested that you should approach the Colonial Secretary with regard to the Wilson's Bungalow-Ambawella Railway Station Road, I should like you to mention the matter of a washaway at the 4½ mile post. It was inspected and acknowledged two years ago. I have for some months been writing on the subject. The G. A. refers me to the D. E.; the D. E. to some other official. I have kept at it regularly each month and cannot get the matter righted.

#### P.W.D. AND WEEDS.

Mr. TEMPLE mentioned that another point he would like to see mentioned in the letter was the matter of weeds on earth thrown up by the P.W.D. alongside the drains cut through estates by that department. If those weeds were not destroyed it would very soon be a source of danger to the planting industry around there.

The CHAIRMAN: On the Kandapola road the road over the culvert gets under water when there is heavy rain. That is due to the culvert not being wide enough to carry out the volume of water. The flooding of the road at that point is inconvenient and dangerous. It can be easily avoided by widening the culvert.

Resolved:—That Messrs. C. B. Nelson, H. M. Drummond Hay and J. Temple with the Hon. Secretary as ex-officio be elected a special sub-committee to sit after the rising of the general meeting and draft letter to be forwarded by the Nuwara Eliya P. A. to the Colonial Secretary enumerating the grievances dealt with at the meeting.

#### A MINOR ROAD.

Mr. B. A. WALLIS WILSON next brought up the question of the upkeep of the Ambawella-Dimbula bridle path. He stated that Rs. 45 was given him to keep that bridle path in repair, but he found it insufficient. The road was used largely by the Sinhalese villagers of Uva who carried vegetables into Dimbula, where they had established a trade. These villagers also bartered with coolies for rice

in exchange for their produce. The road was hardly used by Tamil coolies. It was not an estate road, and he did not know why the estates there should keep up the road for the Uva villagers if Government would not increase the grant.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that assistance should be solicited from the Dimbula P. A. and the estates in Dimbula whom the road served, also the D.R.C. of Nuwara Eliya should be asked for a bigger grant.

Mr. WALLIS WILSON said he often asked, but it was not always he got what he asked for to keep the path in order.

Mr. TEMPLE said Diyagama coolies used the path on a Pongal day; never otherwise. He had watched the traffic on the path since taking up a charge on Warwick Group and he worked an average of one cooly per day over it, while the Sinhalese villagers averaged over 20 per day.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY bore out Mr. Temple's remarks and incidentally mentioned who really were benefited by the existence of the path.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

The SECRETARY laid a letter on the table from the A. G. A., Nuwara Eliya, intimating that rinderpest had broken out on Frotoft, Ramboda. The Secretary added that he had also received a telegram from the G. A. the previous day stating that the outbreak at Frotoft was serious.

#### S.P.C.A.

The CHAIRMAN: There is a letter here from the S.P.C.A. soliciting our annual subscription to the Society. We have for years past donated Rs. 10 annually and I think we may give it again this year.

Mr. WALLIS WILSON: Does the money go into the pockets of someone in Nuwara Eliya or to the general fund?

The CHAIRMAN: To the general fund. The S.P.C.A. keep a peon here, who is under the supervision of Mr. Phelps for the Nuwara Eliya district. He is expected to keep a sharp lookout and take offenders to the Court.

Mr. WALLIS WILSON: Well, he does not prosecute half enough. One has to go over the Ambawella road to know.

The CHAIRMAN: If you will see Mr. Phelps, after the meeting, I am sure he will do all he can to help you to bring the offenders to book.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY: I have no objection to Rs. 10 being voted to the S.P.C.A. who would do well to turn their attention to the P.W.D. and have some of the employers in that department prosecuted instead of keeping their eye on the carters. I do believe that the carter honestly tries to keep his bulls in condition and to look after them. It is the condition of the road that brings about the sores, and those who are responsible for producing it should in my opinion be prosecuted instead of the carter.

RESOLVED:—"That Rs. 10 be donated to the funds of the S. P. C. A."

The CHAIRMAN: That concludes the business before the meeting. Mr. Nelson has a matter of importance to bring up. It will be quite in order for Mr. Nelson to do so under "any other business properly brought up." I will call on Mr. Nelson to speak.

#### GOVERNMENT AGENT INTERFERES WITH WATER RIGHT.

Mr. NELSON: Gentlemen, you know that anybody who invests in land generally looks primarily for water. If

he is satisfied that there is a supply to meet his requirement, he would buy it. We planters do the same. Having bought the land after assuring himself that his water supply would prove equal to his demand—to be arbitrarily deprived of it after he had learnt to rely on it is hard. And I like to know whether any Government Agent has a right to have it diverted? I want to get this wrong done to me put right, as I look upon it not only as a wrong to me but a wrong to the whole of Ceylon, as it established a precedent which helps to deprive landowners of their settled water rights. In view of the serious nature of the step taken by the Government Agent, I propose that whereas the former Government Agent of Uva, Mr. F. J. Smith, granted a concession to Mr. L. B. Moore of Bombagalla estate to divert a part of a stream rising in land belonging to the Welimada Tea Company of Ceylon round the shoulder of a ridge into the Bombagalla estate, thereby emptying into a totally different watershed this Association respectfully requests the Colonial Secretary to cancel that concession for reasons stated below:—

(1) That the concession deprives the owners of the land through which the stream runs of the reasonable enjoyment of the use of the water to which they are entitled by law.

(2) That the owners of land are deprived of valuable percolation of water through their land by its diversion to another watershed.

(3) That the gifting away of water rights from the purchasers of land who are influenced in the purchase by the existence of the water referred to is an unjust and unreasonable action. Gentlemen, in Welimada we want every drop of water we can get and I am not asking too much when I ask to have things put back to what they were before the concession was granted.

THE CHAIRMAN: Did you approach the present Government Agent?

MR. NELSON: I have; but he is not inclined to admit that the action of his predecessor was wrong.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have your legal remedy?

MR. C. B. NELSON: Oh, yes.

MR. DRUMMOND HAY: Mr. Nelson should be supported by all of us to the hilt. We all know how jealous the native cultivator is of his water right for which he sometimes stakes his life. If any one of them were to be deprived by estate proprietors of their water there is always a big row made by the headman and Government Agent. It is absurd that one of our estates should be deprived to the extent as Mr. Nelson has shown us. We should help him to have his water right back. An informal discussion followed, at the end of which Mr. Drummond Hay supported the resolution proposed by Mr. Nelson.

THE CHAIRMAN put the resolution to the vote and declared it carried unanimously.

MR. DRUMMOND HAY: There is one matter, Sir, I should like information on, and that is in regard to the cost of transit on tea baskets. Most of us find it difficult to get bamboo to make plucking baskets, and we have to go further afield. Not very long ago we could have got up a hundred baskets by rail at a cost of Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. Now we are asked to book a whole truck at a cost of Rs. 22 to get up a hundred baskets, that practically doubles the cost of the basket. I think it is a most unfair charge to make. I believe there are other gentlemen in the room who have had the same difficulty to contend with.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have had the same trouble, a hundred baskets costing me Rs. 12. I have information that it is not necessary to book a whole truck. You can by arrangement with others engage a truck, it need not necessarily be baskets; the truck can bring mixed goods.

MR. B. WALLIS WILSON: I had the same trouble, my agent down there was asked to pay Rs. 23 on a small consignment of baskets. He refused to pay it, went back to the stores and wrote to me; he had more sense than the general lot of them. He packed several baskets into other baskets, and sent them up at a cost of Rs. 5. I think it was for 50 baskets, it works up to 20 cts. the basket.

THE CHAIRMAN: I understand the freight has been raised owing to the baskets taking up such a lot of room in a truck. Several planters in Kandapolla have had to pay heavily on baskets. An enquiry is being made on representation, and we might wait till we hear more definitely.

#### MANURE EXPOSED TO DAMAGE.

MR. C. B. NELSON asked whether the C.G.R. were not expected to protect chemical manures at stations to which they were consigned?

THE CHAIRMAN: I know they do not put it into the goods-shed.

MR. NELSON: Welimada, Ambawella and Attampitiya estates have manure consigned to Ambawella Railway Station. There the manure is stacked in the yard and it is thoroughly damaged in rainy weather before we can have it carted away.

THE CHAIRMAN: This matter was brought up about two years ago. I think we might write and ask the General Manager to construct a temporary shed for storing manure.

MR. DRUMMOND HAY proposed: "That the G.M.R. be written to and requested to erect at earliest possible moment a shed for consignments of manure for use on estates in Ambawella district, and that his attention be drawn to the fact that this request was made some years ago—and that nothing has been done to remedy this serious grievance."

MR. WALLIS WILSON seconded.—Carried.

A vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. MEGGINSON, and seconded by Mr. NELSON, terminated the meeting at 2.45 p.m.

#### MASKELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the Maskeliya Planters' Association was held at the Maskeliya Club last Wednesday at 3 p.m., preceded by a Committee meeting at 2 p.m. Mr. Hew Kennedy presided, and there were present: Messrs. C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary) R. Maclure, L. A. Wright, D. Finch Noyes, C. E. Wedd, J. P. Chapman, W. H. Brymer, Chas. M. Henry, C. Creasy Hood, J. B. Cotton, S. Johnston, W. R. C. Chapman, J. Shannan Stevenson, Philip H. Cunwin, E. Allfrey, W. B. B. Braine, C. L. M. Scott, D. M. Gordon, R. McCorquodale, J. Cecil, H. Lane, R. B. Harvey, A. P. Juckes, F. Charnaud, F. J. Reiss, A. G. Speirs, J. D. Malcolm, R. E. Rolfe-Rogers, and J. E. Massy, and R. Huyshe-Eliot (visitor.)

The notice calling the meeting having been read by the Hon. Secretary, and the minutes of the last meeting having been taken as read and confirmed.



The CHAIRMAN proposed the following resolution, which was passed in silence, the members standing:—  
“That the members of this Association desire to record their sense of the loss they have sustained by the death of Mr. John Pole and Mr. H. J. Day, and wish to accord their sincere sympathy with the relatives.”

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from Mrs. C. P. Hayes expressing her deep appreciation and gratitude at the Association's resolution of sympathy with her in her loss of her husband.

A letter from Mr. T. M. Crowther was received expressing regret at his inability to attend the meeting.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following letter from the C. P. A. :—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy, 11th May, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Maskeliya P. A.

DEAR SIR,

I write to bring to the notice of all District Associations rule XV. of the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Some few districts have regularly sent in to this office the names of the voters for each contributing estate; but the registers show that in the majority of cases this has not been done for at least seven years back.

To enable me to bring my register up to date I shall be obliged if you will send me in now, and annually, a return in the form enclosed.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) JOHN STILL,  
Hon. Secretary, C. P. A.

(Rule Referred to.)

“Votes shall be in the names of either members, estates, or firms, and all estates and firms shall register with the Secretary the name of the person entitled to vote; seven days' notice of any alteration of the register must be given to the Secretary.”

The CHAIRMAN hoped the members would help the Hon. Secretary to send the list asked for.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT wished to know if every European superintendent of estates is entitled to vote.

The CHAIRMAN: Only those of three years' residence and above.

#### PLANT PESTS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, enclosing a letter from the Director of Agriculture, Peradeniya, forwarding the resolution passed at a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments regarding the desirability of compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates.

Mr. MACLURE thought it quite desirable to proclaim any estate affected with shot-hole borer in the interest of the planting industry.

Mr. WEDD wished to know what came under the description of plants pests.

Mr. MACLURE: As far as I know only shot-hole borer has been proclaimed a pest.

The meeting at length came to the conclusion that the proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates is desirable in the interests of the planting industry.

#### KANDY CEMETERY.

The CHAIRMAN said that they had all read a great deal about the Kandy Cemetery in the papers. The graves and tombstones were in a very bad state of repair, and the attempt to improve the state of this old cemetery, he

thought, should appeal to all present. This could only be done by private subscriptions, and he had no doubt that those present would put their names down to the subscription paper that would be circulated.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT said that most of the tombstones and graves were those of the brave soldiers who fell in the conquest of Kandy.

A subscription paper was circulated, and those present subscribed liberally.

#### HATTON RAILWAY STATION AND SHELTER FOR PASSENGERS.

The Hon. Secretary read the following letter from the General Manager :—

Ceylon Government Railway,  
General Manager's Office,  
Colombo, 31st May, 1913.

HON SECRETARY,  
Maskeliya P. A.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 21st May and particulars contained therein, I have the honour to inform you that there already is a cooly shelter at Hatton station.

2. I quite see the inconvenience that is caused to first class passengers at times when the pilgrim traffic is heavy, but it is a difficult matter to overcome as we cannot prevent them travelling by the trains, and seeing that they have to do so, it is necessary that they should be admitted to the platform at Hatton. As you are aware, people of this class are not very amenable to regulations.

3. We propose to carry out considerable alterations in the yard at Hatton next year including the lengthening of the platform and I shall be at Hatton before long when I shall take an opportunity of going into the whole question raised by your Association. Meantime I will give strict instructions with regard to the station being kept in a sanitary state, especially at times when pilgrims are about. I would also remind you that persons congregating outside the station, whether going by train or simply loafers, are not under my control.

4. I understand the question of latrine accommodation for the outside public in the vicinity of Hatton Station is in hand by the Hatton Local Board.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) G. F. GREENE,  
General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN thought the letter satisfactory, as the General Manager had promised to attend to the matter referred to by the Association.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT proposed that the General Manager be thanked for the prompt and satisfactory manner in which he had dealt with their request.—Carried unanimously.

#### COOLY DEPOT AT COLOMBO.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from the Sabaragamuwa P. A., forwarding resolution regarding the above.

On the proposition of Mr. C. E. WEDD the meeting unanimously agreed to support the Sabaragamuwa P. A. resolution.

#### MASKELIYA ARRACK TAVERN.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following letter on this subject :—

Gangawatte, Maskeliya,  
25th August, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Maskeliya P. A.

DEAR SIR,

I should like to ask whether, in the opinion of this Association, the present site of the arrack tavern is a suitable one. It is right in the middle of the kaddies, and in view of the large number of drunken coolies that are now so frequently seen in

its vicinity, I would suggest that the tavern be moved to some, less frequented spot. Unless this is done there is every probability of some coolies being run over.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) PERCY CHAPMAN.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT agreed with Mr. Chapman and suggested that Government should choose another site other than in the centre of the kaddies.

The HON. SECRETARY: Is there any Crown reserve land available for Government to build a tavern if the present site is refused?

Mr. MASSY thought there was plenty of room but the tavern had to be within the Local Board limits, which would be a matter of some 75 yards or so.

The CHAIRMAN thought it a good idea if the meeting decided to express the opinion that the present site was unsuitable and also decided to refuse any new site. He did not think there was any one who wished to have a tavern in Maskeliya, but on the other hand 49 estates were against it while the other three said that they did not mind. That showed that the tavern had been forced upon them. He thought it a good chance to have the tavern moved from Maskeliya by deciding that the present site was unsuitable and refusing any new site. He invited Mr. R. Huyshe-Eliot to give his views on the matter as he has had some experience as regards the Norwood tavern trouble which the Dikoya P. A. were tackling.

Mr. ELIOT said that as regards the Norwood tavern the decision they got was that Government would erect a tavern on their own land, i.e., Provincial Road Committee road reservation. This they did and the renter started plying his trade in a fortnight. He deprecated the manner in which Government rushed these taverns against the wish of the two districts and regardless of the welfare of the coolies. He condemned the action of Government in establishing these drinking shops in the centre of kaddies frequented by coolies. He thought it would strengthen the case of Dikoya if Maskeliya declared the present site unsuitable and refused a new site. He suggested that Maskeliya should strongly protest against the site and hoped the Planters' Association would support them by expressing the disapproval of the action of Government in forcing taverns on these districts against their wish.

IN FAVOUR OF A LICENCED TAVERN.  
OBJECTION TO ITS BEING UNDER THE  
COOLY'S NOSE.

Mr. MACLURE expressed the opinion that establishing a licensed tavern was a good idea. Illicit sale of arrack was carried on to a great extent and he did not think there was a single cooly line where arrack was not sold illicitly. The Government's idea was to regulate the arrack traffic and to put down illicit sale with a strong hand and he thought it nothing but right that the Government should be given a chance of accomplishing what they were aiming at.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT: They can have that chance without placing a tavern in the centre of the kaddies. A tavern half a mile away from the kaddies would do as well. The objection is to there being arrack available under the very nose of the cooly every time he goes for provisions to the kaddies.

The HON. SECRETARY said that the coolies spent their wages within a few days of the receipt of pay chiefly in liquor. The difference between licensed taverns and illicit places of sale of arrack was that in one place they had to pay cash down, while in the other they got drinks on credit, but that was only allowed to certain coolies.

Mr. HENRY endorsed all that fell from Mr. MacLure and speaking of Bogawantalawa he knew of a place of illicit sale of arrack which thrived for years in spite of endeavours to put it down. If Government was anxious to put down illicit sale of arrack they should give them every chance of doing so. He remembered having spoken to the Inspector of Police as regards the large quantity of arrack sold illicitly, and the latter expressed himself as being quite helpless as long as the cooly could have in his possession three bottles.

Mr. HOOD suggested approaching the planting representative through the Parent Association with a view to bringing the matter of arrack taverns in the centre of kaddies of planting districts before the Legislative Council, and, in the event of failing, to obtain redress to take it further to the Home Government.

After some desultory discussion it was decided on the proposition of Mr. NOYES to request Mr. Massey to refuse any site whatsoever, the latter agreeing to give one month's notice to the present renter and to refuse any new site with the sanction of the agents.

SECOND-CLASS HOTEL FOR MASKELIYA.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Hon. the Government Agent, Kandy, with reference to an application by Messrs. Mirando Bros for a license for a second-class hotel at Maskeliya to sell liquor to *bona fide* residents and their guests and to casual visitors requiring liquor with meals supplied to them. The G. A. thought there was no objection to this, but wished to know the opinion of the Association, stating that it would not be a regular public house.

Mr. P. H. UNWIN said that there had been an application by the same firm in 1910, and the feeling of the Association at that time was against it, as it was feared it would be a public house where conductors, teamakers, and others would resort to and get drunk. If it only served the *bona fide* travelling public there should be no objection as it would be useful as large numbers travelled to Adam's Peak. If worked on the lines of a public house it should be strongly objected to.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT thought a second-class hotel would not be harmful on the lines suggested as there was already a licensed drinking shop. He thought a second-class hotel would be of benefit to the travelling public.

It was thereupon agreed to reply that the Association had no objection to the granting of the license.

VETERINARY SURGEON FOR HATTON.

With reference to the request of the Association to have a qualified veterinary surgeon stationed at Hatton a letter was read from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary stating that Mr. A. M. Ahmat, a senior Stock Inspector would be stationed at Hatton and Mr. G. B. de Silva, Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, would be stationed at Kandy and visit Hatton when required.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT thought it was not clear whether the man referred to was qualified, and suggested pressing the matter further as there was a great demand for

the services of a qualified veterinary surgeon. There would be a deal of outside money coming in for such an officer's services. A qualified veterinary surgeon at Hatton would not only be useful to Maskeliya, but to Dimbulla, Ambegamuwa, Dikoya, Bogawantalawa, &c. He, therefore, moved that the Hon. the Colonial Secretary be again written to the effect that the appointment does not meet the wishes of this Association and to ask for the appointment of a fully-qualified veterinary surgeon as Stock Inspector to be stationed at Hatton.

Mr. C. E. WEDD seconded.—Carried.

#### BUNYAN-MASKELIYA PRIVATE CART-ROAD.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary that Government was not prepared to take over the above road under the Branch Roads Ordinance, but that Government would continue to maintain the portion of the road forming an approach to the Maskeliya Hospital.

Mr. J. A. WRIGHT suggested to ask Government for a turning place at the Hospital, as at present they had to leave their cars at the bridge about quarter of a mile away. If there was a turning place this could be obviated.

Mr. HARVEY seconded this suggestion, which was unanimously carried.

#### BLIND CORNEES.

The resolution received from the Provincial Road Committee, Kandy, on the above subject was before the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN thought that they could easily acquiesce to the requests contained in the resolution as it would be to the general good of the public, and moreover it would be a work for which they would be paid.

The meeting unanimously agreed to help the P. R. C. in the matter.

### THE RICE QUESTION.

#### THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, we come to the resolution standing in my name as regards the Rice Question. In touching upon the present price of rice and consequent heavy loss which is sustained by every estate where the welfare of the labour force is considered, I feel that I am dealing with one of the biggest questions that has been before this Association since my residence of nearly 18 years in the district. It will not be possible for Maskeliya alone to tackle such a question, and for that reason I say in my resolution that "concerted action of some kind" is necessary. I will not bore you with a long list of figures and will try to be as brief as possible on the subject generally. You will all doubtless agree that for many years past we have seen nothing in the way of a steady drop in the price of rice, in fact it has been going up steadily till now we see the Colombo price in the *Times of Ceylon* is given as Rs. 4.90 to Rs. 4.95. Now there are but three possible causes for a steady appreciation in price of any marketable article, and these are when the demand exceeds the supply, and increasing cost of production, or thirdly a ring controlling the market. In the case of first and second of these causes buyers have no option but to pay and look pleasant unless a substitute could be found. In the third case if a suitable article could not be found to meet ones requirements, there remain but two courses. The one to fight and break the ring, the second to take it sitting down and

still continue to smile even though that smile be rather a sickly one. Now, gentlemen, there has been no shortage of supply nor increased demand of late years sufficient to justify the enormous increase in the price of rice. There have been years when the monsoon has failed, and one expects a rise in prices for that year, but we have not seen, for certainly ten years past, any sign of the thermometer returning to normal. To my mind this clearly points to the fact that the price of rice is being deliberately kept up, and this can only be done by a very powerful combine with a very large command of capital behind it. You will readily admit that the breaking of such a combine or ring, if it exists, is a big thing to tackle. When I tell you, gentlemen, that the approximate value of the rice consumed by our coolies in Ceylon is about Rs. 22,000,000, you will realise how gigantic such an attempt would be. There are, however, other ways of saving our estates from the present loss that is general in Ceylon. I do not wish to set myself up as an expert, for my knowledge of the question is very minute, but you will remember that Mr. Ryan, some years ago, went thoroughly into the *pros* and *cons* of Burma rice, and I have lately, through the courtesy of Mr. F. H. Layard, read some further letters in which Mr. Ryan explains the reason why Ceylon coolies object to Burma rice, and how these objections could, in his opinion, be removed. I need hardly tell you, gentlemen, that were Burma rice made palatable to our coolies the ring in India, if as I said before it exists, would be absolutely broken up, and in any case with the supply practically double the price would automatically fall to a reasonable figure. There are possibly other ways of bringing about this desired effect, but they are for other brains to work out. And now, gentlemen, I will give you in a nut-shell the result of my figures. I may say at once that absolute accuracy is impossible without circularising all estates for figures, and this I have not done. My figures are worked out with the aid of that invaluable book "Ferguson's Directory." I have taken the amount of rice supplied to estates, the cultivated acreage in Ceylon, and my results are worked out per acre. My figures give a cultivated acreage amounting to 621,058 acres consuming annually 4,659,174 bushels of rice, the price of which in Colombo I have taken as Rs. 4.80. I have also assumed the average price at which this rice is issued to coolies as Rs. 4.80. The loss to estates is, therefore, the rail freight and cart hire, etc., on the rice. The latter I cannot ascertain for the whole Island, so I leave any interested party to work out for his own particular district. The loss on rice for Ceylon delivered at the different railway stations alone totals Rs. 2,108,452 per annum and the average loss per acre for the Island works out at Rs. 3.39 per annum. If you add to this the difference between the rate I have taken Rs. 4.80 and the present rate Rs. 4.95 the rate per acre comes to Rs. 3.54 per annum. For Maskeliya alone I have been able to work out approximately the loss per acre as follows:—19,308 acres cultivated, 143,810 bushels of rice consumed, Rs. 77,472 loss on rail freight, Rs. 120,615 loss on rice delivered on estates or Rs. 6.25 per acre per annum. If anyone would care to see the detailed figures they are here for that purpose. It will be seen that I have divided the Island into three groups, and have taken the average loss of each group in addition to the average over the Island. To the figures I have just given you must be added all costs of transport, storage, and other items from railway to estate, and I think an allowance of 20 cents. per bushel may be

considered fairly near the mark and assuming this to be correct, the total loss on rice per annum works out at just over three million rupees. The loss you will see is very large, and it is money that should be in the pockets of shareholders. Something should be done, but the task is great requiring a deal of money, time and work. We, I propose, should merely start the machinery in the required manner, and get the Parent Association take the matter up. The figures referred to are:—

## LOSS ON RICE FOR CEYLON.

	Cultivated acreage.	Rice bus. per annum.	Rice tons per annum	Loss on R. freight.	Cost per acre per annum.
				Rs.	C. Rs.
1. Colombo- Kandy ...	344,237	2,581,818	67,890	681,737	00 1-98
Colombo- Kurunegalle..					
Colombo-Galle					
Colombo-K.V.					
Kandy-Matale					
2. Kandy- Talawakelle	172,191	1,290,432	33,957	649,156	00 3-77
3. Talawakelle- Bandarawella	104,630	786,924	20,704	777,559	00 7-43
Talawakelle- Uda-Puss'wa					
	621,058	4,659,174	122,551	2,108,452	00 3-39
Makeliya ...	19,308	143,810	3,784	77,472	00 4-01

These figures I think fully uphold my contention that something should be done at once to bring about a better state of affairs. Now that tea is doing well and rubber is still paying handsome dividends and the Island generally is in a prosperous condition, now is, I say, the time to tackle this rice question in earnest. If you agree with me in this, gentlemen, I would suggest that the resolution which stands in my name should be circulated to all district Associations and that the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up. Before proposing my resolution I shall be glad to learn the views of the meeting on the subject.

Mr. STEVENSON suggested applying to Government for the reduction of rail freight on rice.

THE CHAIRMAN explained that even eliminating the railway rate, still there would be a loss of 25 cents per bushel, making 20 cents per acre per month.

Mr. STEVENSON inquired the price of rice on the rice field itself.

Mr. WEDD suggested an attempt at getting the duty on rice remitted. He thought there was no possibility of a corner in the trade, as the rice trade was greatly distributed among merchants and they could never combine. The reason for the price of rice keeping up steadily was purely a matter of supply and demand. They should look to new fields for their source of supply.

## AN ALTERNATE FOOD.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT said that the subject before them and the keenness evinced in the question had encouraged him to bring, and shew to the members, samples of kurrakan as an alternate food for coolies. It was a food which coolies were said to take to with relish and one

which was considered strengthening. He did not suggest that they would live on it entirely, but thought a meal of rice and a meal of kurrakan might be taken alternately with advantage. Mr. Anson, who has gone into the matter rather thoroughly, had kindly sent him some figures and particulars which might be of interest to those present. It was believed that this article could be procured in the bazaars at Rs. 2-25 a bushel. Supposing the cooly was given half a bushel of rice, say Rs. 2-40, and half a bushel of kurrakan at Rs. 1-25, this would admit of a profit of Rs. 1-15 to the cooly's good. If coolies could be persuaded to take this food as suggested above and, looking at the loss on rice with the price at Rs. 4-80 or Rs. 5-50 per bushel in the district, he thought the loss could be reduced by 35 cents. The method of preparation was known to coolies and the samples before the meeting were as follows:—No. 1 had to be pounded and they got No. 2 which had then to be ground in an ordinary grinder and they got a sort of flour. This the coolies cook in various ways, for instance as a pudding or porridge just like tapioca pudding. (Here Mr. L. Wright produced for inspection some cooked meal of kurrakan). If they get coolies to take to kurrakan more generally than they were doing now it would be necessary to provide a grinding machine which could be worked in the factory. Bachelors as a rule had no one to attend to this part of the work, while married men could depend on their wives in getting kurrakan prepared for cooking. Apart from other points, if they used kurrakan and used less rice the result would naturally be to bring the price of rice down.

Mr. JOHNSTON wished to know where kurrakan was procurable and if in any appreciable quantity.

Mr. WRIGHT thought it was very largely grown in India. The large tracts of Buddhist Temporalities land and waste lands could be utilized for the cultivation of this grain. In Kurunegala district thousands of acres would grow kurrakan to advantage. He heard that it was now procurable there at Rs. 1-75 a bushel. If planters were prepared to pay Rs. 2-50 or Rs. 3 per bushel a large acreage would soon be brought under this cultivation. To coolies this was no new food as it is largely used in India, and in fact the suggestion to use it as food for coolies came from the Assistant Labour Commissioner, who thought that, if generally introduced, it would popularise Ceylon. Kurrakan had not the disadvantage of Burma rice, which coolies disliked as they were not accustomed to it. Kurrakan was a food with which they were familiar.

Mr. NOYES agreed with Mr. Wright as regards kurrakan being largely used in India by coolies, and added that in some places their granary consisted of nothing else but kurrakan.

Mr. CORRON endorsed the statement that kurrakan was a food which coolies relished. He knew that in Uva Province coolies sold their rice and bought kurrakan in instead. Kurrakan could be got from India, and it would certainly bring down the price of rice. He thought every one should give it a fair trial. Another article he would suggest, and one that was used by coolies, was Indian corn. Properly cured and cleaned Indian corn could with advantage be given to coolies, say, for instance one part rice, one part kurrakan and another of Indian corn. Such a course would bring about a good saving. He believed kurrakan and Indian corn could be procured in the low-country.

Mr. WRIGHT emphasised the necessity of having some sort of grinding machine to facilitate the work of the coolies in using these articles as food.

**CHAIRMAN'S RESOLUTION CARRIED.**

The CHAIRMAN expressed his pleasure in observing the keenness displayed by the members on the subject and the very valuable information which the subject had brought about. He hoped the matter would be taken up by the Parent Association and discussed, as it was a subject of great importance. He referred to the suggestion for the reduction of rail freight on rice and as regards the statement that there could be no corner in Calcutta he asserted that there must be somewhere such a thing to account for the steady manner in which the price was being kept up. There was 33% less rice consumed than ten years ago, and 5% less now than five years ago. In spite of this fact the price of rice had gone up and this could not be due to supply and demand. As regards the alternate food, kurakkan and Indian corn, suggested, he thought it would effect some temporary relief, but it was necessary that they should go further. He then proposed the following resolution:—"That owing to the heavy losses sustained by estates consequent on the high price of rice ruling at present, concerted action of some kind is a matter for immediate consideration, and this resolution be circulated to all district Associations and the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up."

The Resolution was unanimously carried.

**A RECRUITING AGENCY IN INDIA.**

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Kelani Valley Planters' Association forwarding the resolution on this subject.

The general idea of this resolution appealed to those present, but it was thought too vague to be supported and too important a subject to be passed over. Thereupon Mr. C. E. WEDD proposed "That this Association considers that the idea conveyed in the K. V. P. A. resolution is a very good one, but it is much too vague at present and without sufficient details for this Association to support."

Mr. A. P. JUCKES seconded.—Carried.

**LABOUR QUESTION.**

**LOCAL FEDERATION**

The next business in which a great deal of interest was evinced was a resolution in two parts standing in the name of Mr. D. Finch Noyes as follows:—"That this Association do support (1) Some scheme of District Federation which shall include, if possible, the neighbouring districts of Dikoya and Bogawantalawa. (2) And that this Association do approach the Dikoya Planters' Association with a view to forming a District Labour Federation for Dikoya, Bogawantalawa, and Maskeliya."

Mr. NOYES said: I know that the idea of a local Labour Federation is an old one, and has already been discussed by this Association. I believe that in 1908 it was thrown out by a very small majority, but I think you will agree that the labour situation to-day is far worse than in 1908, and I feel sure that in advocating local Federation to-day I have the support of a great number of you, and I hope we shall be able to persuade those who are either uncertain or against the idea to come in with us and give us their support in organising some form of District Labour

Federation which will, I feel absolutely confident, help us in Maskeliya as it has already helped the districts of Uda-Pussellawa and Kalutara, who have had the pluck to adopt some form of Federation and not only adopted it, but what is more seen it through. Before saying any more I should like to point out that a local Labour Federation would in no way clash with the Proprietors' Labour Federation. As far as I can see one should help the other. The P. L. F. has doubtless done a certain amount of good in the past, and should its new rules come into force it should do still more good; but I feel that what we want is more local co-operation, that is to say, some form of District Federation which will prevent the cooly or rather the kangany from using the tundu system as a lever to obtain fresh advances, in our own district at any rate. Federations in the past—at least those engineered by the Kandy Committee—have not been an unqualified success, chiefly owing, no doubt, to their having gone dead against laws of supply and demand, and also I feel sure because they have started federation from the wrong end, that is from the top downwards. From my own experience I think men are far more likely to favour a local Federation ruled by men they know and, what is still more, who know them, than they are to trust their interests to any body of men in Kandy, able and public-spirited as these men undoubtedly are and always have been. The form of Federation I would advocate for ourselves is either a purely local one or one in which we could ask the neighbouring districts of Bogawantalawa and Dikoya to join. Personally I am rather in favour of starting off on our own, but of course that is a matter for this Association to decide. Now a Federation to be effective must have as few rules as possible and those few as simple as possible; in fact the only rule that I would propose is, "That no member of the District Labour Federation take on another member's coolies without the paying off member's consent in writing." I think that is all that is necessary except for regulations as to the formation of a Federation Committee. Now, the great argument that one hears against local Federation is that it drives coolies out of the district! Well, gentlemen, all I can say is that this has not been the case with Uda-Pussellawa and Kalutara. I will quote you from letters from those districts. Mr. Wilson, a prominent member of the Uda-Pussellawa P.A., writes: "Our Federation has been working smoothly and well for the past three years, it has undoubtedly helped to settle labour, and has strengthened our hands immensely. Every estate in the districts belongs except one, and the superintendent of that estate, even conforms to our rules." Mr. Garnier writing me from Kalutara says that nearly every European estate belongs and that they have practically no labour troubles at all. With reference to Kalutara I ought to explain that they have no Federation to be absolutely exact, but that their P.A. rules contain the following rules which, to all intents and purposes, makes them into a local Labour Federation. The rules read as follows:—"That no coolies paid off in this district be employed by members of this Association without the written consent of the manager paying off the coolies, and in cases of dispute between the employer paying off and the would-be employer the matter be referred to the Committee for settlement, and that their decision be binding on both parties." I think, gentlemen, that what Kalutara and Uda-Pussellawa can carry through we can too

and I do hope the idea will go through in our own district if not in others. One of the great advantages of a local Federation, to my mind is that in time it would enable us to issue to the Labour Commissioner in India a prospectus showing the rates of pay ruling in the district, and also stating what Maskeliya offers in the way of free passages for new coolies, keeping individual coolies' accounts, bonuses in the shape of rice or money to the parents of large families of children too young to work and any other advantages we may decide upon among ourselves. I feel sure that uniformity in such matters would improve the districts' recruiting prospects tremendously at the coast. It may be considered an Utopian and quite impracticable idea, but I look forward to the time when each district would have its own local federation—one might almost call them local Government Boards—arranging and settling all local questions and combining with each other in matters of vital importance to the planting industry as a whole. I know we already have our District P.A.'s, but they have not the power a Federation would have, as you know at our meetings it is very often a case of a deal of argument and little result. A federation to be successful must be unanimous. Gentlemen, I hope you will all come in and give this scheme your support. So far we must admit we have all played for our own ends and the result has been chaos, to say the least of it. Let us try playing the game by each other instead.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT in seconding the resolution said he had not much to add, but wished to say that some years ago he was against local federation as he thought it would be driving labour away from the district. The result achieved by Kalutara and Udupussellawa had practically falsified that idea. The scheme to his mind was nothing more or less than merely enforcing courtesy among planters—a courtesy which obtained among them before the vexed question of labour demand arose.

Mr. WEDD saw no real objection to the scheme, but thought it rather a big question to tackle. The P. L. F. should, he thought, be given a fair trial and this matter allowed to be in abeyance till then. If the P. L. F. prove unsuccessful this scheme can be taken up.

#### FREEDOM OF THE COOLY.

Mr. MACLURE said that though Mr. Noyes' case appeared to be good yet he would have to oppose it. If the local Federation decided that it was not right to take on each other's coolies in Maskeliya or Dikoya without the consent of the paying off employer, he thought it also wrong to take on Dimbulla coolies, for he thought Dimbulla men as much his neighbours as Maskeliya or Dikoya men. The scheme would interfere with the liberty of the cooly and that would be a sad thing. Some years ago when a Commission was held all the witnesses were against anything that would interfere with the liberty of the cooly. According to the Local Federation Scheme if a cooly wanted to leave and his employer did not want to pay him off he would be forced to remain where he was. The cooly had as much right for change as he (the speaker) or any of the members of the Association.

Mr. BRYMER did not think that local Federation would place the cooly's liberty at stake at all. It was not the cooly who wished to move, but the kangany for the purpose of obtaining fresh advances obliged the cooly to do so.

Mr. CHAPMAN thought that if the liberty of the cooly was interfered with it might harm recruiting.

Mr. NOYES did not think the scheme would interfere with the cooly's liberty. He asked them to play the game. All present had a sense of fair play and no one would ever use the Federation as a lever to oppress the cooly. What was wanted was that they should play the game by each other. Everyone remembered the result of the Nicholson-Grand plebescite. Maskeliya advances stand well over Rs. 40 a head, while in Kalutara, where the planters are supposed to crimp each other's coolies who actually recruit from the coast, the advances are Rs. 30 all round.

Mr. WEDD wished to know if the conditions at Maskeliya and Kalutara were identical.

Mr. NOYES: No, but the conditions at Maskeliya and Udupussellawa are about the same, perhaps Udupussellawa is much worse.

The CHAIRMAN thought that what Mr. MacLure said was true as regards tying down the cooly to an estate, but, on the other hand, tying down for him as far as the district is concerned would be good. He thought that they should set about the matter carefully. He did not think it would in any way be an impediment or opposition to the new P. L. F. It would simply be a district affair with perhaps Dikoya and Bogawantalawa and Dimbulla. It would not affect the P. L. F. in the slightest degree. If, they thought the scheme worthy of a chance they should give it a trial. If on the other hand, they thought otherwise they should throw it over. He invited Mr. Eliot, as Chairman of the P. L. F., to say if the scheme would be harmful to the P. L. F.

#### P. L. F. CHAIRMAN'S VIEW.

Mr. ELIOT said that if the members of the local body were also members of the P. L. F. it would do no harm. He said that what was said of Kalutara and Udupussellawa was quite correct, and the Federations there worked very successfully. He, however, thought the conditions different at Kalutara, where there was a settled labour force on very low advances while Udupussellawa could compare with Maskeliya as with Maturatta, which too had a little Federation of its own. He thought Maskeliya should include Dikoya, which is only separated by a ridge. He did not see any harm provided the members joined the P. L. F. also. With reference to the latter he said that they were receiving excellent support even better than they expected, no less than 75 per cent. having joined them. A few in Maskeliya had not yet come in, and he wished proprietors and superintendents would see their way to agree to conditionally. The Federation would no doubt be of immense benefit to the whole island. A good number of those who did not like the old rules had joined. Few were still holding out, saying nothing short of legislation would bring about the desired state of affairs. 75 per cent. did not think so, and he hoped co-operation would eventually be productive of good results.

The CHAIRMAN: I have federated as 75 per cent. have done so. I am sure the rest will soon join us.

Mr. JOHNSTON wished to propose an amendment.

Mr. JUCKES thought to decide an important matter like the present there should be a ruling majority.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know what was meant by a ruling majority.

Mr. JUCKES pointed out that to submit the Kalutara rules to the house would not be right as those absent, say 30 or 40, might not join, in which case they could not be forced to do so.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT thought the scheme might be passed, and, if subsequently a small minority did not wish to join, it could be brought up again and thrown out if so desired.

After some discussion, the CHAIRMAN put the first part of the resolution to the meeting as follows:—

"That this Association do adopt the K. V. P. A. Federation Rules."

The voting resulted 10 for and 14 against.—Lost.

The second part, "That this Association do approach the Dikoya Planters' Association with a view to forming a District Labour Federation for Dikoya, Bogawantalawa and Maskeliya," was put to the vote and resulted as follows: 25 for, 4 against.—Carried.

With the usual vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated—*Matale Cor.*, August 28th.

### URUGALA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Urugala P. A. was held at Delpotonoya Store on August 30th, 1913. Present:—Messrs. J. P. Burke, R. C. H. Ellis, R. Burke (by proxy), and Wyndham F. Baker.

It was resolved that the Government Agent be written to to ask him, in view of the handsome way in which Government lorries are paying on the Rangalla Road, to place a lorry to run between Kandy and Deanstone or Nugatenne. Proposer, Mr. R. C. H. ELLIS; seconder, Mr. R. BURKE by proxy.

Read rules of Proprietors' Labour Federation, and members of this Association were asked to support same.

Read letters re Jurors' Batta for Supreme Court. Resolved that this Association agrees that the present rate of batta is insufficient, and that it supports the motion of the Dimbula P. A.

It was Resolved that the Chairman of the District Road Committee be asked to widen and improve the riding road from Urugala cart road to the bridge over the Bombaoya. Proposer, Mr. WYNDHAM F. BAKER, seconder, Mr. J. P. BURKE.

There was a short discussion re the high price of rice, and it was resolved to leave the matter over till the next meeting.

(Signed) WYNDHAM F. BAKER,  
Hon. Secretary.

### KALUTARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Kalutara Planters' Association took place at the Club House, Tebuwana, on Saturday. The attendance was not very large owing to the football match at Taldua. Mr. G. H. Gollidge presided, and those present were:—Col. R. D. Vizard, Messrs. F. J. Ingleby, H. Inglis, F. W. Bridge, D. C. Miller, H. M. Stratford, A. MacDonald Smith, J. Ferguson, L. M. W. Wilkins, R. Broome, A. T. S. Boyle, H. MacLaren, W. Lintott, H. A. Nance, W. E. Adam, J. Lawford, Philip Hanbury, G. C. W. Malet, C. E. A. Dias, W. P. H. Dias, D. M. Goonewardene, J. V. P. Abeyawardene, and J. W. Oldfield (the Hon. Secy.) A Committee meeting preceded the general meeting. At the opening of the latter the Chairman apologised for the small attendance.

### COMPLAINT AGAINST A TODDY TAVERN.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. R. G. Westland, of Kiriwanaketiya, Neboda, complaining of the toddy tavern on the boundary of Madola estate and stating that toddy was brought all the way from Kalutara to Madola.

A letter from Mr. Norman complained of the silting up the Kudaganga with slag which considerably hampered transport.

### A RICE RING.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Maskeliya P. A., containing the following resolution:—

"That owing to the heavy losses sustained by estates consequent on the high prices of rice ruling at present concerted action of some kind is a matter of immediate consideration.

The CHAIRMAN said it was a very serious question. The high price might be due to a ring; it looked very much like it. The time had come when they should take some steps towards finding out whether the cost of rice could not be reduced. Some time ago they tried Rangoon rice which was much cheaper than Calcutta rice, but they found it did not keep—the only objection to it. For that reason it required to be specially cured. As far as he remembered their Commissioners were sent over to investigate the question, but they were told the millowners were not prepared to put down any special machinery to meet their requirements as the trade was not sufficient. They should now investigate with a view to erecting machinery in Colombo or with a view to combining to give a big order to the millowners in Rangoon—such an order as would induce them to supply them with a stated quantity per annum. He thought they could get their rice properly cured then, and it would be suitable for their labour. The question was coming up in Kandy, and there they should leave it for the present.

### A COOLY DEPOT FOR COLOMBO.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Sabaragamuwa P. A., which contained the following resolution:—"That owing to the difficulties experienced in Colombo by our coolies going from Ceylon to India, that the C. L. C. be requested to open a depot in Colombo, similar to the one in Tuticorin with a staff of peons, that the coolies may be supplied with the necessary tickets, etc.

The CHAIRMAN said that this was somewhat old history. The object of the proposal was being carried out. Tenders for the carrying out of the proposal had already been called for.

### CATTLE DISEASE.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Kelani Valley P. A., which contained the following resolution:—"That Government be asked to add to their staff of Inspectors and Veterinary Surgeons to better cope with disease in general."

### CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

#### S. P. C. A. INSPECTOR TO WORK IN THE DISTRICT.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the S. P. C. A. requesting the Association to establish an agency in the district and to guarantee the pay of a peon, sub-Inspector or Inspector for six months, and that the Association select a member to act as honorary agent for the district.

Mr. Lewis Walker, the S. P. C. A. Secretary, was also present.

The CHAIRMAN said that the letter had been duly considered at the Committee meeting, and it was felt that the matter was one to be dealt with by the general meeting as it effected all estate cattle generally. Mr. Walker had very kindly come down to give some idea of what it would cost them to employ an Inspector in the district for the purpose of detecting cases of cruelty to animals and prosecuting the owners or drivers. It would be superintended by one or two of the members of the Association, as honorary supervisors. He then called upon Mr. Walker to tell them something of that work.

#### MR. LEWIS WALKER'S EXPLANATION.

MR. LEWIS WALKER said that on several occasions, people living in that district had spoken to him privately about the state of the bulls and horses in the district, and the letter written by him was with a view to eliciting their opinion. To speak frankly he said that he knew very little of that district himself, having only paid odd passing visits now and then. But he did not think there could be much doubt that there was ample scope for the work of the Society if properly supervised. The man who supervised any work of the Society must be one who took a genuine interest in it: not to act simply as a recorder and send in a written record of the cases taken and probably of cases not taken up. Such work was tremendously open to bribery and corruption, he knew from experience. On the other hand, that was no argument why such work should not be taken up, because at any rate, if there was a certain amount of corruption, that was the very fact why a man should be under the supervision of somebody who was really to be trusted, and that would serve as a deterrent. He arrived that morning by train at Kalutara, and there he got into a hired gharry and drove down. When he got some distance he found the gharrywallah sawing the horse's mouth. He got out in disgust, and to his amazement, he found the horse's mouth was raw and the flesh broken inside. He had to turn the gharry back and commandeer a bicycle and got there. If anyone would kindly take up the work in the district, it would certainly mean a cessation of cruelties as in the instance mentioned. He was talking to the Inspector-General of Police the previous night on that very subject. He told him that the one way of ensuring efficiency was for the agent to occasionally go out for a day or two, so that the officer might see that his work was being watched, and interest taken by those above him. The Society had had ample experience of agents up and down Ceylon who would not take trouble. In such cases, the agency would be suspended for the time being. If, however, they thought such an agency would be useful and were willing to start it and there are one or two willing to take a genuine interest in the work, then so far as he could see there was ample scope. The agency work was then explained by Mr. Walker. If they wished to start with a sub-Inspector on a salary of Rs. 25 a month, the Committee would expect that the Association should guarantee something about his wages. If he were to be employed for six months that would come to Rs. 150, which was not a very large amount considering that there are 70 estates in the district, as he understood. The officer would be entirely at the disposal of the agent, and he could perhaps

have his headquarters in Kalutara. He could call at the estates where a sort of patrol book might be kept. At the end of every month the agent would send to Colombo a record of the work for the month, and of cases which had been taken—something like a diary for the month. Then by return post or very nearly so, he would get a cheque for the month's pay. The cost of the man would be more than what the Association subscribed, because there would be batta, travelling expenses, etc., which the Society would pay. All that the Society asked was reasonable support. (Applause.) As regards a working officer, he said, he could provide one from Colombo.

MR. MILLER: Are these men trained in veterinary knowledge.

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee nominated by your Committee was: Messrs. R. Garnier, Ingleby, Dias, and Trafford Lewis with the A. G. A. Mr. Lewis could not sit so Mr. Dickinson was elected in his place.

The meeting confirmed the appointment of that Committee.

#### COMPLAINT RE ALUTGAMA R. S.

The Secretary said he had written the General Manager of the C. G. R. relative to the delay passengers experienced at Alutgama R. S. owing to the inadequate exists. The General Manager had replied that the matter was being enquired into.

#### TODDY TAVERN.

MR. W. LINTOTT, Superintendent of Pattipola estate, under date April 10th, wrote to the P. A. as follows:—

DEAR SIR,

The new toddy tavern put up in January last, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile on the Kalutara side of Tebuwana, is proving a great nuisance to this estate, and I shall be obliged if you will kindly bring the matter up at the next meeting.

Previously cases of drunkenness were not frequent, and, although no doubt toddy was obtainable in many houses near, the coolies did not congregate to drink as they do now, and many of my Tamils are now in the habit of going there and frequently return drunk. Toddy is sold at 10 cents a bottle.

The SECRETARY having forwarded this letter to the Excise Commissioners, Colombo, received on acknowledgment saying the matter would be enquired into.

#### AN OFFICIAL REPORT.

On June 28th the Excise Commissioner wrote to the Hon. Secretary enclosing a copy of the Assistant Commissioner's report on the subject which was as follows:—

The toddy tavern referred to in these papers was opened on 11th October, 1912, and the monthly consumption there has averaged about 185 gallons.

Only fifty coconut trees have been coupled to supply it with toddy, and tests made in April and May show that their yield is poor, i.e., the toddy tavern has unquestionably had a small supply.

The supply is delivered late at this toddy tavern and is frequently consumed within two or three hours—being in fact quite inadequate for the demand.

The toddy tavern is one of those bought up by W. B. Gordiyann Fernando of Beruwala, and there is no doubt that he, in collusion with the arrack renter, has deliberately suppressed the sale of toddy at this tavern.

I have visited this toddy tavern personally on a considerable number of occasions and am certain that all the above statements are correct; I have to the best of my recollection only once seen this tavern really doing any substantial business.



The Matugama Inspector, Mr. E. G. Perera, has been instructed to pay frequent surprise visits to this toddy tavern and to send his peons there also. He will also inquire at the Tebuwana Police Station regarding any cases of drunkenness; the station is close by.

As you know, the alcoholic strength of toddy as sold in taverns averages perhaps  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. roughly—in fact it is weaker than weaker Lager beer and its power to intoxicate is very limited. On the other hand the arrack tavern at Tebuwana sells arrack at a strength not lower than 27 u.p., and in May, 1913, sold no less than 507 gallons. To my mind, the inference is irresistible that the drunkenness must be attributed to drink other than toddy.

(Signed) A. C. ALLNUTT,  
Assistant Commissioner of Excise.

#### THE COOLIES CALL.

Mr. MILLER wished to know whether coolies were allowed to take away toddy from the taverns. In that case toddy would be kept to ferment and the alcoholic strength would be more than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The CHAIRMAN said that they could take away toddy.

Mr. LINTOTT said that his coolies did not get drunk on the estate. They went away between tapping time and taking names and returned drunk, perhaps paying out of his scrap.

The CHAIRMAN: Do your coolies pass the arrack tavern before getting to the toddy tavern?

Mr. LINTOTT: There is no doubt that they pick up drink at each place. (Laughter.)

Mr. INGLIS said his experience was that there had certainly been an improvement. Before his coolies could just go across the boundary and get toddy at the villagers' houses, but since there had been heavy fines of Rs. 100 and Rs. 150 on villagers, that had nearly stopped. Now the cooly found it very hard to get toddy, and had to go down to Tebuwana.

Mr. MILLER: I have got a new one on the estate. That is why I am rather interested.

Mr. DIAS said Mr. Inglis was looking at it from the point of view that he had no tavern close by his estate.

Mr. LINTOTT said although the tavern was a new institution at Tebuwana the coolies could go anywhere they liked round the estate and get toddy. He had never seen an Excise officer to report to. He could put him up to a place where coolies could get drink while they were tapping and probably they paid for it out of his scrap.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was not for the Excise Officer to come to them but for them to send for him. If they could give information as to where drink was illicitly sold it was the officer's business to find it out and suppress it. They had to be fair in these matters. The whole thing has not been started long enough to say exactly what the ultimate results are going to be. When the figures were tabulated then would be the time to criticise. When they were absolutely certain drink was on the increase it was their duty to bring to the notice of the Excise officer any illicit sale. That was the best way to help Government officers to suppress the illicit sale of drink.

#### HOSPITAL AT AGALAWATTE SANCTIONED.

The SECRETARY announced that since the last general meeting the Agalawatte Hospital has been sanctioned.

The SECRETARY read the letter addressed by the Association to the Secretary, Medical Wants Committee, and the reply received, in which it was stated that the site for the hospital had been approved and steps were being taken

to acquire it, while the Director of Public Works had been requested to prepare plans and estimates for the construction of the hospital with a view to the work being commenced during the current financial period.

#### FERRY AT ANGURUWATOTA.

The SECRETARY read a letter addressed to the Director of Public Works on the unsatisfactory state of the ferry at Anguruwatota, where at present there were neither mooring posts nor ropes, while the paving did not extend below the lowest water level and what paving there was at present presented a most uneven surface.

The reply from the Director of Public Works was to the effect that as a temporary measure pending permanent improvement, which he proposed to bring up for consideration with the estimates of 1914-15, the existing paving would be adjusted as far as possible and mooring posts fixed.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we may consider that satisfactory.

#### AGALAWATTE-BADURELLA ROAD.

The SECRETARY read a letter with regard to the reconstruction of the Agalawatte-Badureliya road to the effect that the Director of Public Works had been instructed to make a detailed survey if necessary before finally considering the question of construction, and that no provision had been made in the estimates for 1913-14 for the purpose.

#### USUAL COMPLAINTS AGAINST P. W. D.

The SECRETARY read the following letter addressed to the Director of Public Works by the Association.

12th June, 1913.

SIR,

I am directed by my Committee to draw your attention to the backward state of repairs of all roads in the Kalutara District, making special mention of the following:—

(1) Horana-Warakagoda Road—This road is at present almost impassable, and the Anguruwatota-Warakagoda section is in a decidedly dangerous condition.

(2) Horana-Nambapana Road—The Committee regrets that the condition of this road shows no improvement, although the District Engineer, Kalutara, stated some months ago that it would all be in good order by the end of June.

(3) Nagoda-Matugama Road—This road is now in a very bad state; in some parts all the surface of the road has been washed away and the foundations are fully exposed. This road has been in this condition for some months and repairs have only just been started.

In conclusion I am directed to state that the feeling in the district is that as regards the condition of roads we are very badly served, and that compared with other Districts, our roads are in a very bad state.

#### THE OFFICIAL REPLY.

The Director of Public Works in replying under date 25th August forwards a copy of a letter from the Provincial Engineer, Western Province, on the subject. It was further stated that, realising that more attention was required in the Kalutara District in the matter of roads and works than can be given by one District Engineer, the District has been divided into two and that another District Engineer has consequently been appointed to Panadura. The enclosure of the Provincial Engineer to the P. W. D. was:—

21st August, 1913.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 915 of 30-6-13 I have the honour to state that as I have now travelled over all the roads complained of by the Kalutara Planters' Association, an addition to my original report becomes necessary as follows:—

(a) Horana-Warakagoda Road.—This road which was originally a minor one with a gravel surface and inadequate waterways is being gradually improved by track-metalling and the provision of additional culverts. Where it has not as yet been improved and were subject to inundation it becomes very bad during rainy weather and I consider that the portion from Warakagoda to the Anguruwatota ferry leaves very much to be desired, though I do not agree that it is in a "decidedly dangerous condition." Every effort will be made to improve this portion of the road.

Mr. WALKER: Sometimes we get men who are trained. We get men with a certain amount of training, and, as a rule, we train them ourselves.

Mr. MILLER: How do you teach them?

Mr. WALKER: He goes round with the other Inspectors of whom there are five in Colombo, and picks up his business. It does not require a man a very high knowledge of veterinary science. What knowledge is required is very simple.

Mr. INGLEBY: Can you prosecute Sinhalese who have many dogs?

Mr. WALKER: The Ordinance covers any animals, even fowls or any living creatures.

Mr. ADAM: Is the Inspector allowed to shoot a dog under the circumstances?

Mr. WALKER: Not without Police sanction, I can give you the terms of the Ordinance.

Mr. ADAM: I have got permission to destroy all the pariah dogs in Kalutara district. (Laughter.) I can give him the permission.

The CHAIRMAN said they all agreed that an Inspector was really necessary, and the cost would probably be 1s. 5 per estate. He suggested that they circulate a list not only in that room but to all the estates. Mr. Walker's remarks would appear in the Press, and not only would superintendents see those remarks, but also proprietors and agents. There would be no difficulty in collecting that money and guaranteeing the first year's subscription, possibly Rs. 300. He suggested they pass a resolution to that effect. With regard to the honorary agents Col. Vizard and Mr. Ingleby, gentlemen living in different directions had kindly undertaken to do the supervising work. They could not find two better gentlemen. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. INGLIS asked Mr. Walker if he would want a guarantee.

Mr. WALKER: If there is any reasonable prospect of support I do not think my Committee would absolutely insist on a guarantee.

Mr. FERGUSON: How can you guarantee any amount until you have actually collected it?

Mr. INGLIS: The Association will guarantee it, and then send round a list.

The CHAIRMAN: The Association can guarantee anything in a general meeting.

Mr. INGLIS then proposed: That this Association guarantees the sum of Rs. 300 (inclusive of the Association subscription for one year) the salary of a sub-Inspector and that the members of the Association be circulated to obtain the necessary funds.

Mr. BRIDGE seconded.

Mr. FERGUSON suggested that the amount be collected and not make any guarantee.

The CHAIRMAN said they were guaranteeing it and accepted the responsibility.

Mr. FERGUSON: Then you will pay it out of Association funds?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes unless we get it.

#### AN AMENDMENT.

Mr. FERGUSON then proposed an amendment that subscriptions be collected as soon as possible and after ascertaining what was likely to be got a guarantee should be given.

Mr. WILKINS seconded.

Mr. INGLIS: My object in asking for this guarantee now was that the inspector might be sent down at once.

The CHAIRMAN: The subscription will be Rs. 275 and the Association will provide the remainder. I think that is fair.

The amendment was lost by 9 votes to 7 and the original motion was then carried.

The CHAIRMAN expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Walker for coming down and giving them an idea of the work of the S. P. C. A.

A list had been sent round the meeting and the Chairman announced that Rs. 150 had been collected.

#### "ANOTHER BRIBERY HOUSE."

The CHAIRMAN said that there was a good deal of correspondence with reference to Kalawela Police Station and he was very pleased to say that it would be opened shortly.

A voice: Another house of bribery. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN said the Committee had written to the Inspector-General thanking him.

#### EXCISE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The SECRETARY read the letter from the A. G. A., Kalutara, on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN said that that letter had been subsequently withdrawn, as the names should be nominated by the C. P. A. He had since received a letter from the C. P. A. and Mr. Inglis had kindly consented to be nominated as a member of the Excise Advisory Committee to the district. He hoped the Association would confirm it.

Mr. INGLIS explained that he allowed his name to be sent in as Mr. Gollidge made him understand that a name had to be submitted before the general meeting. It was left to the Association to find another if they thought fit to elect. His name was simply sent in just to keep things going.

The CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. Inglis will suit nicely and I don't think he is going to escape. (Laughter.)

Mr. OLDFIELD: I propose that Mr. Inglis be permanently appointed.

Mr. MILLER: I second it.—Carried.

#### A FIXED RATE FOR COLLECTING SCRAP RUBBER.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Dakeyne to the effect that if possible the amount paid for collecting scrap rubber be reduced by two cents.

Mr. NANCE: What is the present rate?

The SECRETARY: It varies.

The CHAIRMAN said that it had been discussed in Committee. It was very difficult to fix a standard rate for anything and the Committee recommended failing that, that in view of the serious fall in the prices, it was desirable

that payment for No. 1 scrap on all trees over 7 years old should be at the rate of one cent per ounce dry. He said that it would be admitted as quite a sound expression of the views of the district, because they must realize the time had come to begin retrenchment of some kind, more special when one learnt of the exorbitant prices paid for scrap not necessary in that district. That would be a very good way of making public their views in that district. They would consider that a fair rate for the whole district.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. LINTOTT suggested that the rate be from the 1st January.

The CHAIRMAN: We cannot make a hard and fast rule; this is only a recommendation.

#### SERIOUS CRIME ON ESTATES.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the A. G. A., Kalutara, asking that in all cases of serious crime the local Headman, as well as the Police should be informed.

The CHAIRMAN said that it simply meant that such cases must be reported to the local Headman and the Police.

#### INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION.

The SECRETARY read a letter received from the organising Manager of the International Rubber and Allied Trades Exhibition, which requested the patronage of the Association.

#### TROPICAL MEDICINE SCHOOL.

The SECRETARY read letter from the Secretary of the C. P. A. on the subject of Dr. Bahr's leaflet on Tropical Diseases.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was considered in Committee, some time ago, and it was thought that the Association could very well afford to subscribe a small donation towards the worthy fund. The Committee proposed the payment of the sum of £5, and asked that it be sanctioned. The circular referred to the London School of Tropical Medicine.

This was agreed to.

#### A DISTRICT RAILWAY.

##### "A VERY CONSIDERABLE STEP FORWARD."

The CHAIRMAN said the Committee had considered the question of a district railway, and there was a good deal of correspondence on the matter. That day they had read a letter from the A. G. A. which was a very considerable step forward.

The letter from the A. G. A. was as under:—

2nd September, 1913.

SIR,

With reference to the proposed railway through Kalutara district from Panadura, I have the honour to inform you that I suggested to Government that I be authorised to enter into consultation with the Committee of the Kalutara Planters' Association, and to prepare a full statement of probable traffic with reference to each of the possible routes, and to submit it with guarantees for the information of Government. I have been authorized by Government to do so.

Please let me know when the Committee can arrange to meet.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) G. F. PLANT, A. G. A.

(b) Horana-Nambapana Road—Work on an estimate bearing No. 261 and sanctioned on 17-8-11 has been carried out in this road, which I am informed has effected a great improve-

ment and I therefore cannot agree with the opinion of the Kalutara Planters' Association. Although if more attention be paid to the shape of the road and metal already piled be consolidated, an improvement will result and I have given orders to the District Engineer to attend to this matter at once.

(c) Nagoda-Matugama Road—This road is not in such a bad state as represented. As reported by the District Engineer there are three miles which can be considered bad and work was hampered on these miles on account of rinderpest preventing the transport and consolidation of metal. Steps have now been taken to repair the miles in question.

In conclusion I shall be glad to pay every attention to the reasonable demands of the Planters of this District should they care to address me direct on these matters and would point out that it is difficult to maintain roads in this locality where they become so often submerged by water and where in most cases they are lacking in foundation, in width, and in sufficient waterways—due to their having been minor roads of rough and ready construction in the first instance.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) E. H. VANDERSTRAATEN,

P. E., W.P.

August 21st, 1913.

#### QUESTION OF FAR-REACHING IMPORTANCE.

The CHAIRMAN said that on the question of roads they were very careful in drafting the letter to the D. P. W. to be quite sure of their facts. There seemed to be much difference of opinion on the adjectives used and their meaning as understood by the Provincial Engineer. He seemed to be offended for having gone past him on this occasion. In so far as the Committee was concerned, there was no slight intended for the Provincial Engineer, but considering the question of such far-reaching importance, it was the natural thing to write to the Director of Public Works. It would appear that what they had stated more or less was borne out and proved in the reply they had received. About the Horana-Warakagoda road, the Provincial Engineer does not agree that "it is in a decidedly dangerous" condition. He (the Chairman) went over that road. To put down large slabs of stone and cover them with mud, he considered dangerous; in another case a culvert was put in and filled with mud—he called that dangerous.

With regard to the Matugama-Nagoda road it was said that the metal was there and not used. He could not see it, it must be overgrown. (Laughter.) Whether that was due to rinderpest or not he could not say. There must be some means surely to roll the metal in case cattle were not available, in order to push on with the works. A steam-roller might have been used. (A voice: It has arrived at last, Sir.)

They had not exaggerated their case in the least, if they had given offence in bringing forward their complaint, it was not done intentionally. Any way their roads would in future receive better attention.

The SECRETARY did not think they could accept the excuse given by the Provincial Engineer in the case of the Nagoda-Matugama road.

#### POSTAL MATTERS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that since the last meeting a service between Kalutara and Matugama had been instituted. They fully appreciated that benefit which was due to the Post-master-General for taking the matter up. They had already written to him thanking him.

[We are holding over the discussion relating to the plant pests till to-morrow.]

## RUBBER ON THE RAILWAY.

Mr. DIAS moved that rubber be included in the 4th class of goods on the railway, the same as tea, for freight purposes.

The SECRETARY seconded.

Mr. INGLEBY suggested that the matter should be thoroughly thrashed out in Committee before they sent anything to Kandy.

Mr. FERGUSON seconded.

Mr. DIAS withdrew his motion and Mr. Ingley's suggestion was agreed to.

## THE AUDITOR.

Mr. Miller was elected the Auditor.

## ABSENCE FROM MEETING.

On the motion of Secretary it was agreed that any member of the Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings ceases *ipso facto* to be a member, but is eligible for re-election.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

## DOLOSBAGIE AND YAKDESSA PLNTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association was held at Pen-y-lan at 9 a.m. on August 27th, 1913. Present: Messrs. M. H. Reeves (Chairman), A. J. Stephens, H. S. Popham, M. B. Blount, A. Sudlow, F. R. Bisset, T. J. Wilson, E. W. Morris, T. Smith and E. G. Box (Hon. Secretary). This was followed by a General Meeting at which were present, in addition to the above mentioned, Messrs. R. Mallaby, E. D. Skinner and the following visitors Messrs. W. P. Hodgson H. B. Schofield, N. Crosland, and N. Lee.

Before commencing the business of the meeting the Chairman referred to the death of Mr. Charles Laing of Mossville which took place in July last. He proposed a vote of sympathy with Mrs. Laing and other members of the family, which vote was passed in silence, all the members standing.

## ROADS.

Read correspondence with the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary with reference to the Barnagalla Pen-y-lan cartroad.

Read correspondence with the D. R. C., Kandy, with reference to the Cattarem-Ingurugalla bridle road.

It was decided that the D. R. C. be asked to make a special grant of Rs. 50 to put the ford in good order and that the estates will keep up the road.

## LANTERN HILL-SOMEREST CARTROAD.

Mr. STEPHENS then proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. SUDLOW:—"That Government be again urgently requested to take over and connect the Lantern Hill-Somerset cartroad with the Government cartroad at both ends, thus making it Government through-out." Mr. Stephens in a speech of some length said that only three years ago Government had connected the Craighead factory road with the Somerset-Lantern Hill road by a really good cartroad, had built substantial cooly lines and overseer's quarters, rarely occupied, on the side

of this road and it now refuses to take over this four mile section at present under the 1902 Ordinance. Mr. Stephens said that the two estates Somerset and Cooroon-doowatte had to contribute about two-thirds of the annual assessment, and that unless Government comes to their help they will probably withdraw, and if so, the road will be abandoned. He did not think Government should hesitate to take over this portion when there are Government roads at each end depending on these four miles for connection. If connected he thought that other estates that now use the Somerset-Nawalapitiya outlet would use this road, as at present they are liable to be assessed for construction and annual upkeep if they do so.

Read letter from P. R. C. re blind corners on main roads.

## RAILWAYS.

Read letter from Kelani Valley P. A. asking for the support of this Association to its scheme for an extension of the K. V. Railway to Bulathkohupitiya.

It was decided on the proposal of Mr. REEVES, seconded by Mr. Popham, that the Association continues to support the Kegalle scheme, which would be of much greater benefit to this district.

Read letter from Mr. Blount re continuation of the proposed railway through Kegalle to Hatgampola or Aranayaka.

This matter was referred to Mr. Popham as representing this Association on the Kegalle P. A. sub-Committee.

## OTHER P. A. RESOLUTIONS.

Read letter and resolution from the Kelani Valley P. A. with reference to the founding of a recruiting agency.

It was resolved that this Association considers the details of the scheme insufficient to enable it to give it its support.

Read letter and resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P. A. with reference to the opening of a depôt in Colombo to help coolies and kanganyies going to the coast similar to the one at Tuticorin.

The meeting expressed itself strongly in favour of such a depôt, as it considered the one at Tuticorin to be very successful and to be doing good work.

Read letter from the Hon'ble the Government Agent, C.P., re tea leaf thefts.

The meeting was of the opinion that these thefts of tea had ceased.

Read letter from the Parent Association re the compulsory proclaiming of plant pests.

The meeting was of the opinion that the compulsory proclaiming of pests was not desirable.

Read letter and resolution from the Dimbula P. A. regarding the present rate of batta allowed to witnesses in Crown cases.

This resolution had the support of the meeting.

Read letter from Mr. James Bett referring to the local Postmaster.

## THE S. P. C. A.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary, Ceylon Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, asking for the support of the planters in this district.

The meeting was of the opinion that prosecution by the S. P. C. A. had become very frequent in the district. Cart contractors complained that they had been fined for using bulls with but a slight abrasion of the skin, such as

might have been caused during a single trip from the estate to the railway station, these abrasions being more often caused by having to travel over stretches of unrolled metal, and by the general bad condition of the road, rather than by any fault or cruelty on the part of the cartmen.

One member complained that a bull had been detained for a fortnight in the Gampola animal refuge, Re. 1 per day being charged for its keep, but the animal arrived back on the estate in a much poorer condition than when it went into the refuge, and had to be rested three weeks before being put to work.

It was resolved that a letter be sent to the Hon. Secretary, C. S. P. C. A., calling his attention to the matter.

#### THE HOSPITALS.

Read Mr. Wilson's report on the Dolosbage Hospital as follows:—

I visited the Dolosbage Hospital on the 19th instant. The Doctor was in charge at the time of my visit. The latrines, bathrooms and hospital grounds were all clean and in good order. There were no complaints made to me. All patients were inside the ward at the time of my visit and appeared to be well cared for. There were 19 males and 15 females in the hospital at the time of my visit. The wards were rather overcrowded, there being 34 patients in the hospital, whereas the hospital provides for 20 patients only. All servants were present at the time of my visit, and I did not notice any infringements of the hospital regulations. There are two drains taking drainage away from the hospital, which come through hospital grounds down to the cartroad. These drains are badly in need of attention. One drain is only cemented as far as the top of the bank and from there it is simply an open earth drain for about 40ft. down on to the cartroad, and there is always a large deposit of refuse from the hospital collected in it. These two drains should be made concrete drains from the part where the concrete drain now stops on to the culvert which takes the water under the road. This will then prevent refuse from the hospital collecting in these drains as it does at present.—

(Signed) T. J. WILSON.

Read Mr. Box's report on the Nawalapitiya Hospital as follows:—

I visited the Nawalapitiya hospital on the 25th instant. Dr. Peries was in charge at the time. The wards looked clean and well kept as well as the bathrooms and lavatories. The grounds were not so tidy as usual owing to the building operations in progress and building materials lying about. There were 65 patients in the hospital, which contains 46 beds. The male wards were not overcrowded, there being one bed unoccupied, but in the female wards which contain 14 beds there were 34 patients. At the date of my last visit, May 13th, the P. W. D. were just starting the work of building the new wards, but I regret to state that during the intervening three months, with the exception of the foundations and three or four courses of brickwork, nothing has been done. Given to a contractor in May and built of brick as they promise to be, these buildings might easily have been ready for occupation by now. Taking into consideration the usually crowded state of this hospital, not to mention the inconvenience to the staff and discomfort to the patients

caused by having the workmen about the place and the noise of the building operations during all these months, this slow rate of progress is very much to be condemned.—

(Signed) E. G. BOX.

The Secretary was instructed to send copies of these two reports to the P. C. M. O. for his information and to request him to take action in these matters.

#### MAIL.

Owing to the recent temporary loss of a mail bag between Nawalapitiya and Dolosbage it was resolved on the proposal of Mr. BISSET, seconded by Mr. WILSON, that the P. M. G. be asked to see that more care be taken in the despatch of Dolosbage mails from Nawalapitiya to Dolosbage in view of the recent delay to the mail letters of Sunday, 17th August, and would suggest that if extra runners be employed they be compelled to travel with the usual mail carrier.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.

6th September, 1913.

(Signed) E. G. BOX.

Hon. Secretary.

#### MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Matale Planters' Association was held at the Borron Memorial Hall at 1-30 p.m., preceded by a Committee meeting at 1 p.m., on Saturday, 30th August. The Chairman, Mr. A. Thorp, presided over a record attendance of 44 members, which included Lt.-Col. E. Gordon Reeves, Messrs. Harry Storey, Hodgson Bell, H. D. Garrick, E. M. Le Feuvre, E. M. Biggs, W. Innez Short, C. Ross Wright, W. A. Tytler, J. B. Tennant, W. L. R. Bartrum, J. C. Tribe, R. P. Gorton, Allen B. Thomson, L. E. Thomas, D. A. Steele, R. M. Eckert, W. H. FitzPatrick, H. W. Vickers, Dan Joseph, John A. M. Bond, M. E. Waddilove, J. L. Hayden, C. A. Evans, D. A. Miles, Louis Piachaud, G. V. Neave, N. V. Forrest, Gerald Abbott, G. Allday, and the following as visitors, Messrs. Melville Parker, P. L. Molyneux, A. T. Bantock, S. Grenier, Francis Talbot, G. Andrews, M. H. Ratton, W. Weber, G. R. B. Williams, I. Whitworth, Christopher, J. M. Evans, Dr. E. Langley Hunt, c.m.g., I. M. O., and Mr. H. S. Cameron (Honorary Secretary).

THE LATE MR. JAS. WESTLAND.

The Honorary Secretary having read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said: Before commencing the regular business of the meeting I wish to place on record in the minutes of the Association our deep sorrow at the loss of Mr. James Westland. Mr. Westland was one of our most valued, enthusiastic and sincere members. Unfortunately he was not able to attend our recent meetings owing to ill-health, but previously he hardly ever missed a meeting. He certainly foresaw our troubles with labour and he was one of the pioneers of direct recruiting from the Coast. He attempted direct recruiting some 10 years ago, and imported a large gang of Telugus at his own expense. His great service to the planting interests can be best gauged by the fact that he was given the life membership of the

Planters' Association of Ceylon, an honour that had only been previously conferred on one other gentleman of the planting community (Sir William Duff Gibbon). I propose that we record in our minutes our deep sorrow at the loss of Mr. James Westland, and do request our Secretary to write and express our sincere condolences with Mrs. Westland and the family at their irreparable loss.

This was passed in silence, the whole house standing. The following letter from the Hon'ble the Government Agent, C.P., to the Chairman was read:—

Kandy 25th May, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,  
Matale P. A.

SIR,

I only saw the announcement of the death of Mr. James Westland in the paper this morning. Had I known of it I would most certainly have attended his funeral to show my respect for him, and I much regret my absence. It was only a few days ago that I recommended to Government that he should be made a J. P. for the Island in recognition of his life's work.

Yours Sincerely,  
(Signed) G. S. SAXTON,

A copy of this letter was sent to Mrs. Westland, who replied conveying her thanks for the expressions of sympathy.

The minutes of the last meeting having been taken as read, the following letter was read:—

#### KANDY CEMETERY.

Coolbawn, Nawalapitiya,  
10th May, 1913.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,  
Matale, P. A.

DEAR SIR,

Since my letter of 3rd March was written, a copy of which I enclose, the Kandy Cemeteries Committee has been doing its best to find out how much Government will do towards putting both Cemeteries in better order, and the Committee propose at once to begin and get the grave-stones that require it put in better order. So far the only subscriptions that have been paid in have been in response to my appeal to the P. A. Committee. Will you kindly air the matter in your Association, and give those who wish it a chance of subscribing? The subscription is limited to Rs. 5. The repairs required to the wall, etc., of the Garrison Cemetery have been estimated for by the P. W. D., and the matter is to be placed before Government and the military authorities as there is some doubt as to the Department which should carry out the work and maintain the place. This was the position on the 22nd ultimo and is all I have to report at present.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) P. R. SHAND.

The HONORARY SECRETARY said that this was no new subject to the members as they all must have heard about it. It was a worthy object and deserved their support. Subscriptions would be received by Mr. Shand or the National Bank, and remittances should be marked Kandy Cemetery Reclamation Fund.

A paper was circulated and most of those present subscribed.

A letter was read from the Land Settlement Officer re coconuts and plants.

#### A PLANTING J. P.

With reference to the selection of Mr. W. Jas. Westland as a J. P. for the district (the appointment which has since been sanctioned by Government) Mr. Westland had addressed the following letter to the Association:—

Gammaduwa,  
8th May, 1913.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,  
Matale P. A.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th instant for which I think you. I feel honoured by your Association for considering my name and have no objections to their submitting it to the Assistant Government Agent, Matale, as an additional J. P. and U. P. M. for this district.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) W. J. WESTLAND.

#### RINDERPEST.

A letter was read notifying that rinderpest was prevailing in Migalla village in Asgeriya Palasiyapattu.

The CHAIRMAN said that this disease among cattle was very bad all over the district and it was very kind of the A. G. A. to have sent the notice. It so happened in these cases that such notices were considerably late when brought before the meeting of the Association, as it was some two or three months after the notice that a meeting was held. These notices however appeared in the papers.

#### THEFT OF ESTATE PRODUCE.

The HONORARY SECRETARY read the following letter:—

The Kacheheri,  
Matale, 18th June, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,  
Matale P. A.

SIR,

In view of the complaints which have reached me regarding loss of tea in transit from estate factory to England, I have the honour to invite your attention to Police Court, Matale, case No. 40360—a case of theft of tea effected between the factory and the railway station by boring a hole into a chest and extracting the tea, the hole being subsequently filled up. I would suggest that this be brought to the notice of members of your Association in order that they may be on their guard against similar frauds.

I am, Sir,  
Yours, etc.,  
(Signed) W. T. SOUTHOORN, A. G. A.

#### KANDY-MATALE TRAIN SERVICE.

The HONORARY SECRETARY read a letter from the Knuckles, Kelebokka and Panwilla Planters' Association forwarding the following resolution:

"That the General Manager, C.G.R., be requested to resume the 9-15 a.m. train from Matale on Sundays."

The CHAIRMAN wished to know if this train had since been resumed.

SEVERAL VOICES: No.

Mr. GARRICK, in supporting the above resolution, said that he himself had personally experienced the inconvenience caused by the discontinuance of this train, for when he had to travel a fortnight ago on a Sunday he could not do so as the train had not yet been resumed since its discontinuance in January last. He saw no reason why it should not be resumed.

Mr. BELL said that while the meeting was considering this subject he wished to advocate the resumption of the last evening train and suggested asking the General Manager to run the present 5 p.m. train from Kandy to Matale at such a time as to enable connection with the 2-30 p.m. from Colombo as before. The reason adduced for starting the evening train at 5 o'clock, about half-an-hour before the arrival of the Colombo train, was that it was dangerous to run night trains over the Matale line owing

to the serious breaches caused by the January rains, as these breaches had been temporarily bridged up with sleeper cribs. But during the Kandy Perahera night trains did run at 1 or 2 o'clock. It must be admitted that it was very inconvenient to have only one train from Colombo (the 7.45 a.m.) As it was the 5 o'clock train might be made to wait half-an-hour longer at Kandy and thus connect with the Colombo afternoon train.

Mr. HAYDEN agreed with Mr. Bell and added that another inconvenience was that the English mails when they arrived late in Colombo were now delayed a day owing to this arrangement whereas, according to the old arrangement, they received the mails the same day.

Mr. BIGGS said that he heard both from guards and drivers that it was very dangerous to run night trains with the line in the present state of temporary repair. When they ran the Perahera night trains they did so with repeated fog signals, and he (the speaker) having his bungalow by the side of the line knew and felt it to his cost, for the fog signals were placed not only to mark breaches but at places where slips were likely to occur.

Mr. BELL thought that by starting the evening train half-an-hour late they would be able to pass the dangerous places or breaches before dark.

Mr. GARRICK did not agree.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know if Mr. Bell proposed to submit a resolution.

Mr. BELL suggested adding this as a second request along with the Kunkles, Kelabokka and Panwilla P. A. resolution.

The HONORARY SECRETARY seconded and thereupon it was unanimously agreed to add the following request: "and also to resume the old connection with the afternoon mail from Colombo."

#### BATTA TO EUROPEAN WITNESSES.

The HONORARY SECRETARY read a letter from the Dimbulla Planters' Association forwarding the following resolution:—

(1) "That this Association request the Government, in their own interest, to immediately amend the present rate of batta allowed to witnesses in Crown Cases to a rate consistent with the present hotel prices, to which there is no reduction. (2) That all other Associations be required to back this up."

It was pointed out that the batta for European witnesses at present was Rs. 4.50 a day.

The CHAIRMAN said that he did not understand why European witnesses were paid less than an ordinary juror. He suggested asking Government to raise the scale to that of the batta to European jurymen.

Mr. BOND wished to know how much jurymen got.

The CHAIRMAN: Rs. 7.50.

Mr. HAYDEN suggested that European witnesses who attended District Court cases be also included.

Mr. BELL said that he was under the impression that Estate proprietors got Rs. 7.50 and Superintendents only Rs. 4.50 when serving on the jury.

#### HOTEL CHARGES.

Mr. STOREY wished to mention in this connection that the hotel Managers had raised their charges, attributing the change to the fact of their having to pay increased wages to servants. He did not see the reason why, when they could combine to increase their charges to visitors,

the Manager could not combine to keep the wages of servants down.

Mr. GARRICK proposed supporting the Dimbulla P. A. —Carried unanimously.

#### PLANT PESTS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Director of Agriculture submitting the resolution *re* the desirability of compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates.

The HON. SECRETARY explained that the subject had been before the General Committee of the P. A., who had refused to reply to the resolution till the opinion of the District Associations had been obtained.

The CHAIRMAN said that the general feeling was that everything possible should be done to stand out pests, but all were of opinion that nothing could be done. It was suggested that one should report his neighbour when he noticed pests in the latter's estate. Shot-hole borer was prevailing to a large extent, and something should be done.

Lieut.-Colonel REEVES said that every man should first know what was the nature of the pest, let alone having a fight with his next door neighbour.

The CHAIRMAN thought that it was generally understood that estates affected with shot-hole borer should not sell tea seed while the same applied to canker in cocoa.

Mr. WADDILOVE thought the prohibition was on plants and not seeds.

The HON. SECRETARY: Plants of some districts only.

Mr. BELL said that this was a matter for the Plant Pests Board. He had been a member of the Board for a long time, and it had never been called upon to do much.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether they thought compulsory proclaiming of pests desirable. He remarked that it was rather a large order and invited the opinion of Mr. Garrick as member of the Plant Pests Board.

Mr. GARRICK said that the Association must give an opinion on the matter as he knew the Board had put off from time to time any decision in the matter for the express purpose of learning the wish of the District Associations. He would be present at the next meeting of the Board and promised to see what could be done. Personally he expressed himself as in favour of compulsory proclaiming of pests on individual estates.

Mr. BIGGS: The shot-hole borer trouble has existed for some years, and planters as a rule cut down and burnt affected trees. They should be allowed their own means of stamping out the pest. He suggested taking no notice of the matter.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the resolution to the meeting and the voting resulted as follows: 8 for and 14 against compulsory proclamation. The resolution was lost.

#### TELEGRAPH OFFICE FOR ELKADUWA.

The following resolution stood in the name of Mr. M. E. Waddilove on the subject:—

"That owing to the growing importance of the district and increased acreage in cultivation Government be asked to open a Telegraph Office at Elkaduwa."

On Mr. WADDILOVE rising to speak on his resolution the CHAIRMAN pointed out that Government would demand a guarantee of Rs. 3,000 to grant a Telegraph Office at Elkaduwa and asked whether Mr. Waddilove was prepared to give this guarantee as it was usual for Government to ask for it.

Mr. WADDILOVE expressed himself as being ignorant of this requirement. As a matter of fact he remembered getting a Telegraph Office at Koslande without any such guarantee.

Mr. LEFEUVRE said that some three years ago Government made them give a guarantee of Rs. 3,000 in the event of its sustaining a loss.

Mr. WADDILOVE thought in that case there was no use going on with the resolution at present and wished to withdraw it, and get more particulars.

Mr. LEFEUVRE said the kaddie-keepers would not join though in the event of his succeeding they would derive benefit.

Mr. WADDILOVE thought at present there was something like Rs. 600 available.

It was thereupon proposed that Mr. Waddilove do write to the P. M. G. on the subject and obtain more particulars, and the motion was accordingly withdrawn.

#### TELEPHONE.

Mr. BOND, while they were on the subject of the telegraph, wished to know the result of the suggestion to have a telephone installation for Matale district. He thought the subject was mooted some time ago, and nothing had been heard yet.

The CHAIRMAN said the proposal had been shelved.

Mr. STOREY explained that the matter was really in abeyance pending the placing by Government of the whole telephone system in the Island on a firmer and satisfactory basis. This was expected after the visit and report of Mr. Preece, the expert. It was believed after Mr. Preece's report Government would soon take steps to bring the telephone system to a good standard. But this so far had not resulted.

Mr. BOND said that Matale was a very large district and growing in importance, but it was one of the few that had not a telephone installation. He thought it would be very advantageous to have a telephone for the district.

The CHAIRMAN suggested appointing a sub-Committee to consider the subject.

Mr. C. A. EVANS seconded.

Mr. STOREY remarked that a district telephone would somewhat fail in its usefulness if not connected with the trunk line.

It was pointed out that Kandy was only 16 miles, and a connection with the trunk line could be easily effected.

Mr. BELL suggested having a good sub-Committee including men who were far away from the town, as those close to telegraph stations appeared to be against the movement.

The following sub-Committee was thereupon elected:—Messrs. H. Storey, Robt. Wilson, J. A. M. Bond, J. M. S. Barlow, D. A. Miles, the Chairman, and Secretary.

#### THE RAILWAY AND THE FLOODS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the General Manager, C. G. R., acknowledging receipt with thanks of the following resolution passed by the Association:—

"That a hearty vote of thanks to the General Manager of the Railways be passed for the efficient and quick manner in which they temporarily repaired the damage done by the floods and got traffic going through again."

Matale P. A., 4th July, 1913.

THE P. W. D.

PIONEER LABOUR FORCE.

The following letter was read:—

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee of above Association to thank you for the information contained in your letter of the 26th May, re proposed increase of the Pioneer Labour Force.

My Committee would further draw your attention to the reports, which I annex hereto, on the various roads in this district. They are of opinion that the present unsatisfactory state is due to want of funds and labour or else lack of system in the Public Works Department—none of these appear insurmountable.

The outlook at present is alarming. Up to date very little has been done to the road surfaces since the floods of January, and no progress has been made in rebuilding the bridges at Deville and Paldeniya. Unless these are rebuilt before the North-East Monsoon a considerable number of estates in Matale West and North will be cut off from their supplies and unable to despatch produce.

In view of the present unsatisfactory state of the railway service, dependent as it is admittedly on temporary sleeper bridges, and of the Matale road, my Committee will be glad of a definite assurance that the Wattagama-Ukuwella road will be open for traffic before the North-East Monsoon.—

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) D. S. CAMERON,  
Hon. Secretary.

(The Report referred to.)

#### WATTAGAMA-UKUWELLA ROAD.

Mr. Thomson of Marakona reports (June 5th, 1913):—

"I went over the road between Wattagama and Ukuwella in the middle of May and found that on the Wattagama side of the Marakona Bridge, the road was practically finished. There is yet to be done about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile through Malvern and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile through Marakona. The Marakona bridge is progressing—both sides are now complete and the only work to be done is the iron work between buttresses. I questioned the P. W. D. Engineer upon the subject and he informed me that it was probable that the road will be completed by the end of July. He informed me that he has had great difficulty in getting stone near at hand for the license of the road and that it is mostly due to this that the work has been delayed. I see that the road metal is now being laid through Marakona.

#### PALLAPATANELLA-GALLAWELLA ROAD.

Mr. Bartrum of Akramboda estate reports (May 31st, 1913):—

UP-KEEP.—General condition of road is disgraceful, more particularly the portion between Paldeniya and Galawella where the surface is studded with the jagged points of foundation stones. There is practically no labour force on this part of the road and no metal for repairs.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS.—A temporary bridge has been erected at the culvert on the 23rd mile post, it is unsuitable for heavy traffic. Paldeniya bridge subsided into the river in January. No temporary bridge has been erected and no preparation for reconstruction has been put in hand. Traffic now comes *via* a ford, but will probably be cut off when the river is flooded by S.-W. Monsoon rains.

#### NORTH ROAD—RATTOTA ROAD.

Mr. W. J. Westland of Gammadua estate reports (May 8th, 1913):—

As regards the Rattota North Road section the general condition certainly leaves much to be desired, but this I suppose is owing to the increased traffic of late years and P. W. D.'s inability to keep up a corresponding staff of coolies to cope with



the work. Any work that has been undertaken is certainly well done, as far as I know, but the general complaint is they are so frightfully dilatory in commencing any necessary repairs.

#### YATAWATTE-GOLAHENWATTE ROAD.

Mr. J. M. S. Barlow of Yatawatte estate reports (14th May, 1913):—

As regards the Yatawatte-Golahenwatte Road, the whole has been a trouble through not having nearly enough labour. The total length of road constructed is 4 miles; there is one set of lines with some 15 coolies. The contractors do not seem to be in any way tied down to time for completing work.

The 10 ft. to 15 ft. culvert near 22½ mile post was carried away on December 23rd, 1911, and was only finished last week. The bridge near Dangan 25½ miles was carried away in January and we still only have a foot way. The temporary bridge is not strong enough to take carts. (Provision is now being made to broaden and strengthen this bridge.)

The general doing up of road and keeping side drains clear is very irregular

#### NORTH ROAD MATALE SECTION.

Mr. Thorp of Hapugahalanda estate reports (22nd May, 1913):—

Madawella 3 culverts in course of erection since 15th January. If there was any rain this road would be impassable.

The bridge at Waliwella which was washed away is still in the same state of repair (temporary) that it was left in the week after the heavy rains in the middle of January. It is hard to say what would happen if we had any heavy rain. It might stand of nothing heavy came up against grevillea supports.

The culvert about the 19 mile is not yet finished and one never sees much work being done on this culvert. I understand that the materials are not yet ready to finish the other side. It is easy enough to get past, but the road is very bad.

The whole of the North road up to Madawella is in a very rough state of repairs, holes all over the road, and shews a decided lack of work on the road. I have never known the road as bad as it is at present."

The following further correspondence was read.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, 16th August, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Matale Planters' Association.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 4th July, 1913, I am directed by the Officer Administering the Government to state that in view of the large amount of extraordinary repairs necessitated by the unprecedented rainfall during January last, His Excellency cannot agree that the present state of the roads in the Matale district affords reasonable ground for complaint.

I am to add that every endeavour will be made to complete the bridges at Deville and Paldeniya before the break of the North-East Monsoon, and that the Director of Public Works anticipates that this will be accomplished.

As regards labour supply Government is advised that during the last two months additional coolies have been taken on and that the labour force is now on the whole in a satisfactory condition.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,  
For Colonial Secretary.

Matale P. A., August 18th, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 12,310 dated 16th instant, and to thank you for the information therein contained. It is proposed to hold a meeting of

the above Association on 30th instant, and I shall be obliged if before that date you could reply to the last paragraph of my letter of 4th July referring to the new road from Wattegama-Ukuwelle.

I am, Sir, etc.,  
(Signed) H. S. CAMERON,  
Hon. Secretary.

#### ROADS IN THE MATALE DISTRICT.

Hon. Secretary, M.P.A.  
Matale Planters' Association.  
August 20th, 1913

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
Colombo.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of 16th instant, I am directed by my Chairman to ask you whether H. E. the Acting Governor will be pleased to receive a deputation from our Association to lay before him our view on the present state of the roads in Matale district.

The Hon. the Rural Member has agreed to introduce the deputation if His Excellency consent to receive us.

If His Excellency while in Kandy would arrange to inspect the new road and railway slips between Wattegama and Ukuwella: have his motor waiting him at Marakona bridge and motor to Dambulla via Nalanda returning via Ga'awella-Palapatwella road, he would be able to judge for himself of the state of the roads and methods of repair.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) H. S. CAMERON,  
Hon. Secretary,  
M. P. A.

The CHAIRMAN remarked it would be very satisfactory if the pioneer force is to be re-established.

Mr. BARTRUM, speaking on the reply of Government and their desire to effect desirable repairs before the N. E. Monsoon, said that there was not a single cooly working on the North Road or at Paldeniya bridge and there was not the slightest chance of the work being completed before the N.-E. Monsoon.

#### UKUWELA-WATTEGAMA ROAD.

Mr. ROSE WRIGHT, speaking about the Ukuwela-Wattegama road, said that the work on this road had been disgracefully delayed and the contents of the reports just read shewed it. The work was taken in hand in 1910. He deprecated the action of Government in declining to accept the offer of a certain contractor who was able to place a large number of coolies and push the work forward. Months and years had passed, but the road had not been opened. This was an important road forming an important outlet for the district in cases of emergency. He did not expect the road to be completed this year, and many of those present would bear him out in this. As his estate depended on this road for its transport work he wrote to the P. E., who referred the matter to the District Engineer with the result that it was evident that the Department was hopelessly out in the date of opening the road, and it would be interesting to know when this road was likely to be completed. He proposed the following resolution: "That this Association views with much discontent the long delayed construction of this road and that the Hon. Secretary do write to the Provincial Engineer asking for an approximate date to be stated when it will be opened for traffic." He said that he felt quite justified in his "growl," and was sure that there was not a member in the room who would not have had heart-burnings had they been placed

in his position during the 2½ years. He considered two years quite excessive for the construction of a cart-road of six miles. He had a deal of transport work to do and not only did the authorities delay in opening the road, but put obstructions in his way when he endeavoured to do his transport in the best way possible. He was told he would spoil the bottom of the road when there was no bottom. (Laughter.) He hoped, however, the time was not far distant when like the cripple who had one leg in Paradise and the other in a poultice the P. W. D. could say "Now we shan't be long." (Laughter.)

#### UNFULFILLED PROMISE.

Mr. THOMSON wished to withdraw his report wholly. The Engineer promised the work would be finished by the end of July, which he had utterly failed to do. The bridge work had been done all wrong. The abutments were found after completion to be unsuited for that pattern of bridge and had to be knocked down and rebuilt, while the bridge happened to be fixed up the wrong way and had to be re-attended to (Laughter.)

Mr. BIGGS said that the bridge (Marakona) concerned him a great deal as the road passed through the two estates he had the honour to be in charge of. He did not think it would be finished in a month. He saw only one iron bar half bolted, and the 3 miles of road cut had not even the foundation laid yet. He had given much of the land and wished his voice heard the louder in the general growl.

Mr. TYTLER remarked that the correspondence and speeches disclosed a very serious state of affairs and suggested taking the matter to the Hon. Mr. Wm. Sinclair straightaway. The district had been very slack in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN: We have done our best.

The HON. SECRETARY: We have appealed to get a deputation to the Acting Governor, and our representative, Mr. Sinclair, has promised to introduce the deputation in the event of it being granted. He (Mr. Sinclair) was expected here to-day, but has unfortunately not turned up.

Lieut.-Colonel REEVES said that the suggestion of Government was that they considered the progress of the work had been impeded by the heavy rainfalls, but he thought it was manifestly due to lack of labour. He thought he was right in saying that when H. E. the Acting Governor reported the increase in the P. W. D. labour force as very fair the evidence before them was absolutely contrary. No work was going on at all, it was said. The opinion of H. E. the Acting Governor and that of the Planters' Association were diametrically opposed. If H. E. the Acting Governor said that there had been steady progress and that there had been increase of labour he suggested that, if the deputation were allowed, it would be most advisable to ask how this increase in the labour force had been effected, and whether they were recruited from their estate coolies. Their duty obviously should be to recruit from the Coast. He thought this one of the points for the deputation. He considered the manner in which the work had been delayed as nothing short of scandalous.

Mr. GARRICK wished to know whether the meeting was for asking for a deputation or for going straight to Mr. Sinclair.

Mr. BOND suggested pressing for a reply *re* the deputation before considering the other proposal.

Mr. HAYDEN thought the reply from the Colonial Secretary was curious, and remarked that it appeared impossible to have emanated from the Officer Administering the Government.

It was thereupon proposed as an amendment that the appeal for a deputation be further pressed and that, in the event of His Excellency consenting to receive a deputation from the Association, the following members be elected to form the deputation:—Messrs. W. L. R. Bartrum, J. M. S. Barlow, W. J. Westland, Allan B. Thomson, C. Ross Wright, E. M. Biggs, Harry Storey, Gerald Abbott, C. A. Evans, Hodgson Bell, Colonel Gordon Reeves, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary; and should any member be unable to attend such member be asked to nominate a neighbour to take his place.

#### MOTOR LORRY ON THE MATALE-DAMBULLA ROAD.

The subject of motor transport having occupied the attention of the meeting last time Mr. Thorp, the Chairman, corresponded with Government with a view to securing the privilege of running motor lorries on the North road. The final reply to the request was that "Government regrets that it is unable to alter the condition laid down."

The CHAIRMAN explained that the condition referred to was that the total load should not exceed 2½ tons.

#### EUROPEAN RECRUITING AGENCY.

The resolution by the Kelani Valley Planters' Association was placed before the meeting:—

Mr. STOREY wished to point out that the Proprietors' Labour Federation would attend to this matter. If that body became defunct the Chairman of the Parent Association intended taking up the whole matter again particularly with reference to recruiting labour. He therefore suggested leaving the matter over to the Parent Association.

Mr. GARRICK proposed that the K. V. P. A. resolution be supported.—Unanimously carried.

#### TELUGU LABOUR.

##### PLANTERS' PERSONAL RECRUITING.

The CHAIRMAN explained that Mr. Eckert of Madawella had kindly undertaken to relate his experience with regard to personal recruiting at the Coast.

Mr. ECKERT said that the coolies he recruited were Telugus from Telugu-speaking districts, which were absolutely neglected as regards recruiting. There were six agencies teeming with labour who were quite willing and ready to come over to Ceylon. The coolies, he considered, were of a very suitable type and did their work very well. He had some 250 coolies on his estate. They cost Rs. 27 per head including passage and other expenses including advances paid to them at the Coast varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 15 per head.

A MEMBER: Have you got them all yet?

Mr. ECKERT: Yes! They came three months ago and are still on the estate working contentedly. With reference to language, he said that he did not take any special kangany who understood the language from Ceylon or the Coast to help him in the task, for when he first started to go to the Coast to recruit he never meant to go in for this type of coolies. He went to the Tamil villages of South India, the usual source of labour recruiting, but soon found it utterly useless to attempt recruiting there

for he could not get them to come over. It was only when close relatives already in Ceylon approached them that these coolies moved. Then he was advised to try the Telugu country and he found there a good field and ample scope for his work. He considered that taking a local kangany to help him would not be useful but would spoil the work. Mr. Scoble Nicholson, the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, would help those planters who wished to go over to do their own recruiting, and he would give them one of his peons to help them.

Mr. BOND asked whether he had to keep these coolies separately, and whether they did contract work only or the ordinary cooly work as well.

Mr. ECKERT said they put up along with the other coolies and did work just the same as the other coolies, either contract or ordinary daily task.

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT: Are they satisfied with the usual Chetty rice? What other food did they take to?

Mr. ECKERT said he gave them the usual Chetty rice and they appeared satisfied, in fact he had so far received no complaint except that they thought rice took too long to boil. They were used to Rami (Kurrakan or Kapal) and Solam (Indian corn).

Mr. GARRICK: What rate do you pay them?

Mr. ECKERT: The usual wages, say from 30 to 34 cents a man and cents 25 a woman in addition to head or pence money.

Mr. LEFEUVRE: What does rice cost you?

Mr. ECKERT: Rs. 4.48 per bushel.

Mr. EVANS asked whether they worked along with Tamil coolies.

Mr. ECKERT: Yes.

Mr. BOND said what he heard of these coolies was that they wanted contract work, and if they did not get it they left.

Mr. ECKERT disagreed and said they did any work in the same gang as other coolies and some of them were kept as kanganies. Some of them (including women) made good tappers. He brought families, and there were a good number of women in the lot.

Mr. WRIGHT: Can you give any statistics and particulars as regards recruiting in the Telugu country?

Mr. GARRICK: You can get that from Mr. Scoble Nicholson.

Mr. BELL: Are the coolies suitable for low-country or hill-country?

Mr. ECKERT thought them very suitable for Matale district. They cost Rs. 27 on arrival on the estate. This included passage money which he paid himself.

Mr. BOND wished to know if there was any agreement as regards the time they would remain in Ceylon and as regards paying them their passage back to the Coast when they wished to go.

Mr. ECKERT said he had not entered into any agreement at all. The country is poor and the death rate was heavy and the coolies there were only too anxious to come over.

Mr. DAN JOSEPH said that when last in Colombo His Lordship the Bishop of Colombo informed him that he had received a letter from India to say that a number of Christian coolies had come over from India to Matale, and he was asked to see that they did not backslide as far as religion is concerned.

Mr. ECKERT said they were Hindus or Christians; of the latter he thought, there were about 170. He was putting up a church to keep them in their faith. He did not know if there were any Catholics. His idea was that these coolies were a suitable type, worked well and contentedly, and were largely available in the Telugu-speaking districts, of which they would get full particulars from Mr. Scoble Nicholson. They were not troublesome in the field and any conductor could manage them. Of course, there would be some difficulty as regards language and making them understand what was told them, but this difficulty could be easily and gradually surmounted. He expressed himself willing to give an information on the subject that he could.

The CHAIRMAN said the meeting was very much obliged to Mr. Eckert for the very interesting information he had given them. He thought all present realised how Mr. Eckert's personal endeavour had been crowned with success, with the result that he had an ample and contented labour force as he had just told them. He hoped none of them would attempt to recruit from Madawella—(laughter) but that they would follow Mr. Eckert's example and recruit directly from the Coast. There was no doubt that direct recruiting had to be done and the sooner it was done the better.

#### EXCISE COMMITTEE ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. A. Thorp (Chairman), was unanimously elected to represent the Matale Planters' Association.

Dr. Hunt then addressed the meeting, and some discussion followed.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.





